A

SERMON,

PREACHED IN THE

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1820;

BEING THE TIME OF THE

YEARLY MEETING OF THE CHILDREN

EDUCATED IN THE

CHARITY SCHOOLS

IN AND ABOUT THE

CITIES OF LONDON AND WESTMINSTER.

BY

WILLIAM, LORD BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.

A

SERMON,

&c. &c.

PROVERBS xix. 2.

That the soul be without knowledge, it is not good.

AMONG the benefits resulting from a due cultivation of the intellectual powers, it may be questioned, whether those which accrue to the individual possessor, or those which the community at large derive from them, be of the greater value. Certain it is, that the advantages on both sides are *reciprocal;* that whatever of good is experienced in the personal acquisition of knowledge, diffuses itself, more or less perceptibly, through the entire mass of society; while the improvement thence communicated to the public is reflected back upon the possessor in a proportionate degree. A double motive, therefore, is presented for labouring after those attainments, which not only adorn

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and dignify our nature, but multiply the sources of rational enjoyment, and lay the surest foundation of social and of personal well-being.

The Royal Preacher largely descants upon the influence of Wisdom and Knowledge in both these respects. He ascribes to them the true honour of states and of individuals, public welfare and private worth, every thing which gives pre-eminence to the one, or stability to the other.

The concurrent voice of mankind has confirmed these sentiments. They who have made the largest acquisitions of human knowledge will, indeed, be the most ready to confess it's limits and it's imperfections: but for such measure of it as they have found to be attainable, they will never cease to be thankful. Like the "merchant-man seeking goodly "pearls[a]," they will sell all that they have to purchase it, nor will they exchange it for any other treasure that the world can give.

But in forming this judgment of the worth of Knowledge we shall dangerously err, unless we affix to it the same meaning, and assign to it the same modifications, which are attached to it by Solomon himself. In *his* writings, Knowledge *then only* becomes the subject of eulogy, when associated with that RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLE, which stamps its real value. Separated from *this*, he affirms, that "in much wisdom is much grief, and he that "increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow[b]." So invariably does he blend Religion with Knowledge,

[a] Matth. xiii. 45. [b] Eccles. i. 18.

and Irreligion with Ignorance, as to render them almost convertible terms. Nor is this peculiar to the Royal Preacher. It is common to all the Sacred Penmen; and forms a marked distinction between the writings composed under the influence of Divine Inspiration, and those which have no higher pretensions than human authority.

With this clue to its interpretation, the maxim in the Text offers an important subject of inquiry, not unsuitable to the present occasion. It leads to the consideration of two points immediately connected with the design of such charitable Institutions as those which we are now assembled to promote;—the evils of Ignorance,—and the means of removing those evils:—"That the soul be with-"out knowledge, it is not good."

That Solomon had in contemplation the state of those, whose lowly circumstances in life debar them from the ordinary opportunities of acquiring knowledge, may be inferred from the context. "Better "is the *poor* that walketh in his integrity, than "he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool. Also, "that the soul be without knowledge, it is not "good; and he that hasteth with his feet, sin-"neth. The foolishness of man perverteth his "way, and his heart fretteth against the Lord[c]."

The honest simplicity of the unlettered Poor is here, in the first place, advantageously contrasted with the perverse ingenuity of those, who, possessing better means of improvement, misapply their

[c] Vers. 1—3.

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talents or acquirements to evil purposes; such men as those, of whom the Apostle affirms, that, "professing themselves to be wise, they become "fools[d]." But though uncorrupt Ignorance be thus preferable to perverted Knowledge, yet, says the Preacher, "that the soul be without "knowledge, *it is not good:*" and he adds the reason;—"he that hasteth with his feet, sinneth. "The foolishness of man perverteth his way, and "his heart fretteth against the Lord." Through want of knowledge, and necessary discernment of what is good or evil for them, men act blindly and precipitately, and fall into destructive errors. And, when they have thus brought misery upon themselves, instead of acknowledging that their own folly has been the cause, their hearts "fret against "the Lord;" they become fretful and discontented, arraign the dispensations of Providence, and readily yield to those temptations to evil, with which poverty and distress continually assail the undisciplined mind.

We are taught, then, the necessity of providing against the evils not of *Ignorance* only, but also of *false Knowledge:*—of that Knowledge which "puffeth up[e]," but doth not "edify;" that which engenders rashness and presumption, but neither improves the judgment to avoid dangers, nor gives strength to overcome them. To combat *both* these evils is the great object of Christian Education.

[d] Rom. i. 22. [e] 1 Cor. viii. 1.

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Absolute *Ignorance*, whether or not it be a state of positive misery, is certainly not that state which the Almighty designed for man. The faculties bestowed upon us, the objects presented to our contemplation, the sources of instruction laid open to our view, the enjoyments of which we are made susceptible, all indicate the will of our Creator, that we should progressively advance in mental as in bodily strength, and receive, even in this life, a competency of intellectual and spiritual, as well as of animal gratification. If the means of such advancement be utterly denied to any individual; if this rational source of enjoyment be entirely closed against him; not only does life become a dreary and comfortless state of existence, but the character of the being who occupies it can never rise to it's proper standard. Such is man, in what is called the *savage* state; a state, not, what Poets feign, or Philosophers vainly dream, of attractive innocence and simplicity, of pure affections, guileless hearts, and instinctive propensities to virtue and goodness; but, for the most part, of brutal lust and violence, of sordid habits, of wily and insidious cunning, and other characteristic tokens of the depravity inherent in our fallen nature, more and more debased by the continued want of culture and correction.

What men thus are collectively in the savage state, such also, in a great degree, are the individuals in civilized communities, upon whom no moral or intellectual discipline has been bestowed. Though they may partake of some of the benefits

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which the Institutions of Society diffuse through the general mass; and though, by the coercive operation of salutary Laws and judicial Penalties, their disorderly wills and affections may be restrained from much evil which would otherwise ensue; yet these can work but ineffectually, where no higher and more potent remedies are applied. Nay, the contrast between such degraded members of the state, and those who enjoy the advantage of well-cultivated understandings, will render the wretchedness of the former so much more perceptible; and while it exhibits them almost as outcasts from the social body, it must proportionably quicken their sense of that wretchedness, and make them regard their happier fellow-members with emotions of envy, dissatisfaction, and ill-will. Hence, in countries where the distance between the high and low, the learned and the unlearned, is not filled up by some intermediate gradations, there may be observed a general propensity on the one hand to oppression and misrule, and on the other hand to disaffection and insubordination.

"That the soul," then, "be without knowledge, it is not good." It is neither good for the individual, nor good for the community. The ends of society can be but very imperfectly, if at all, attained, where Ignorance prevails through any considerable portion of the state. Nor can any member of the body politic obtain his due share of the benefits of social life, where the first rudiments of instruction are wanting to qualify him for their enjoyment.

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But this evil is most severely felt in the want of that salutary influence upon the mind which RELIGION supplies. To "know how to be abased, "and how to abound, both to be full and to be "hungry, both to abound, and to suffer need[f];" is not the character of an untutored mind. Nor is it the character which results from *human* wisdom only. It springs from a higher source. It owes its origin to that "wisdom from above," which, while it enlightens the understanding, has power to control the will, and to regulate the affections; that, without which the work of discipline, the real purpose of Education, can never take full effect.

This leads to the next great point for consideration,—What means may be most effectual for the removal of these evils.

Solomon intimates that there is a kind of learning productive of evil rather than good:—"Cease, "my son," says he, "to hear the instruction "that causeth to err from the words of know-"ledge[g]." The Prophet denounces, "Wo un-"to them that call evil good, and good evil; that "put darkness for light, and light for darkness; "that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter:" and adverting to one main cause of this perversion of the understanding, he adds, "Wo unto "them that are wise in their own eyes, and pru-"dent in their own sight[h]."

False Knowledge is, in many respects, worse

[f] Phil. iv. 12. [g] Prov. xix. 27. [h] Isaiah v. 20, 21.

than entire Ignorance. It not only leaves the possessor uninformed as to what it most behoves him to know; but it shuts up the avenues to better instruction. It pre-occupies the space which should be more worthily filled. It inverts the order in which our several faculties were intended to exercise their functions. It renders reason the slave of passion, appetite the arbiter of the will. It dethrones the judgment, and sets up imagination in its stead. It bewilders the mind with false views of human life, leads it to expectations never to be realized, and, after a series of anxieties and disappointments, gives up its victims to vexation, despondency, and all the hateful passions which feelings undisciplined by religious control are wont to press upon the mind with overwhelming force.

To the prevalence of this false Knowledge, among those whose unfavourable circumstances enable them not to detect its delusions, may be ascribed the far greater portion of those evils, moral and political, with which society has of late abounded in this and in other countries. The present is not, in the common acceptation of the term, an age of *Ignorance*. It is an age fruitful of knowledge of various kinds, and boastful of diffusing that knowledge to an extent incalculably beyond that which former ages had, perhaps, ever ventured to contemplate. So far as the mere *exercise of intellectual power* has been called forth, its claims are not to be gainsayed. It must be allowed, that never before were such pains

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taken, and successfully taken, to give to man, in the most depressed condition of his being, a consciousness of something nobler than mere animal instincts; a lively perception of that native force of intellect, which is common to all our species, though not always known or felt even by those who are as amply endowed with it as their fellows. That this sort of illumination is infinitely more extended now than heretofore, is not to be denied. And something it undoubtedly is, to have given men a juster estimate of their natural powers; to have impressed them with notions, or persuasions, which may render them more sensible of the true dignity of their nature, and of the place they hold in the scale of moral being.

But from this very circumstance arises a more imperious necessity of carefully attending to what yet remains to be accomplished. You may have taught man what he *is*; but you have yet to teach him what he *ought to be*. You may have shewn him that he has powers, that he has energies, of which he was before unconscious; but you have yet to direct him to their proper use. You may have put weapons into his hands; but whether to use them to his welfare or to his destruction, he may be still untaught. Should you stop here, and deem the work of Education compleated merely by such a developement of his faculties, it may well be doubted, whether, both upon himself and upon society, you have not inflicted an evil, rather than bestowed a good. Until *discipline* has performed it's work; until principles have been instilled, laws of con-

duct laid down, rules and maxims of life inculcated, with competent sanctions to enforce their observance; all that has previously been done will be but vain and ostentatious show. It will be just enough to create pride, self-sufficiency, disquietude, discontent; to arouse the corrupt appetencies of nature, and to add strength to every inordinate affection;—but it will provide no counterpoise to evil propensity, no prevailing motive, either of restraint or of encouragement, to give to the mind a proper bias and direction.

It is dangerous, then, to imagine, that the work of Education consists entirely, or even principally, in applying means to unfold the powers of the human mind, or in giving an increased *momentum* to its natural activity. If nothing more than this were done, society would be left exposed to a formidable conflict between ungovernable spirits, each eager to exercise his strength and inclination in the pursuit of his own object and the accomplishment of his own purpose, without regard to any general bond of mutual affection, or of moral influence. Peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, would still remain undefined and doubtful terms, or unsanctioned, at least, by any authority which could give them effectual sway.

To a similar state would every community be reduced, were the theories of those speculatists to be adopted, who would exclude, from institutions for the Education of the Poor, all *systematic* views of Religion; leaving, as it is pretended, matters of Faith and Worship to the *unbiassed* choice of every

individual; as if nothing more were wanted, to determine the human will to what is right and true, than the free exercise of its own inherent powers. But is this assumption warranted by observation and experience? Does it make due allowance for the known propensity within us to evil; for the severe trial which even the best-disciplined and the most perfect of human beings continually experience in counteracting this propensity? Is it not at variance with what the Scriptures declare of fallen man, and of his inability to will or to do what is good and acceptable, without that sufficiency which cometh from God only?

So far, indeed, is it from being true, that, by increasing the vigour and the expansion of the mental faculties, the necessity of systematic instruction in Religion is superseded; that, on the contrary, in proportion as their power is thus increased, is this necessity rendered more urgent. It is not in the nature of such faculties, and so excited, to remain inactive, or to be cold and listless when an object of pursuit is offered. The first plausible theory, whether true or false, which is presented to their contemplation, will engage attention; and, if it have any captivating features, will probably take strong hold of the affections; more especially, if it partake of those qualities which most readily fall in with the solicitations of appetite or passion. The first and most essential point, therefore, is to satisfy the cravings of the mind with such knowledge as shall best conduce to its *moral*, as well as intellectual, strength. As the latter increases, the former must still be ena-

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bled to maintain it's due ascendancy: and better were it, that the one should be circumscribed even within the narrowest limits, than that it should be suffered to range beyond the control of the other, under no guidance or direction but that of its own undisciplined propensities.

These observations shew the necessity of avoiding two opposite extremes.

The evils generally attendant upon *Ignorance* seem to have led some greatly to over-rate the *degree* of knowledge which is requisite to a full participation of the benefits of social life. An *equalization* of knowledge is no less impracticable, and would be no less injurious to the best interests of society, than an equalization of rank and property. As there are "many members in "the body, and all members have not the same "office[1];" so the degree of knowledge which is suitable, and even necessary to one, may be not only unnecessary, but unsuitable to another, and tend to disqualify him for the duties of his station. But they who are most extravagant in their schemes for enlightening the whole mass of the people, are usually most inclined to depreciate the value of those attainments which are above their reach. Like the levellers of rank and property, they aim at accomplishing their purpose by lowering others as well as raising themselves: and learning in the one case, as wealth in the other, is made a subject of opprobrium and contempt. Thus the idol of the people, while he inflates

[1] Romans xii. 4.

their minds with vain confidence and self-sufficiency, endeavours to diminish their respect for any acquirements superior to their own; and deprives them of the benefit they might otherwise derive from deference to the judgment of those who are best qualified to direct them. Anniversary Sermon, 1820.

On the other hand, the evils attendant upon *false* knowledge, or knowledge *perverted* and *abused,* have induced many to conclude, that it were better to leave the Poor in a state almost destitute of mental cultivation, than to risk such fearful consequences. To these we may reply, that to say nothing of the odious selfishness of such a sentiment, the expediency or inexpediency of withholding knowledge from the Poor, is a point which comes now *too late* to be considered. The question, at the present moment, is not whether they shall be *instructed,* but *what kind of instruction* they shall receive. The work of cultivation has long been going on. New methods have been discovered of accelerating its progress. A sort of intellectual machinery has been applied, by which facilities are obtained for pouring in instruction, with a rapidity, and with a precision also, of which our forefathers had no conception. By these operations, the eyes of the young are opened, their ears are rendered quick to hear and understand, their curiosity is awakened, their appetite for knowledge excited, the things "to be desired to make them wise[k]" are eagerly

[k] Gen. iii. 6.

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sought, an inquisitive spirit is stirred up within them;—and if we withhold our endeavours to give these propensities and these endowments a beneficial tendency, what is to be expected, but that the enemy will take advantage of the golden opportunity, and give it that direction which will suit his insidious purpose? Under such circumstances, to retrograde is neither safe nor practicable. Perseverance is become necessary, for self-defence. The machine is even now in motion; and upon the prudence and discretion of the hand that guides it must the result depend.

Where, then, shall we find the medium between these extremes more happily secured, than in the Institutions which have grown out of our own venerable Church-Establishment;—whose *charity* assigns no limits to the work of Education but such as truth and consistency demand, and whose *prudence* suffers it to extend no farther than to what utility and expediency will warrant. Of that judicious zeal which so happily prevails, at the present juncture, among it's most distinguished members, the animating scene now before us affords a splendid and indisputable proof. The piety of our forefathers, who laid the foundations of these excellent Schools for training the infant Poor of this great Metropolis in the ways of pure Religion and Virtue, is now receiving an abundant recompense in the no less faithful exertions of their posterity to fulfil so laudable a purpose. *They*, indeed, when they first formed these excellent designs, could neither have foreseen nor

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imagined the full extent of evil, against which their successors would have to contend, in protecting the young and inexperienced from the dangers which would beset them. None but those who have passed through such scenes of disorganization, revolutionary confusion, impiety, and blasphemy, as have marked our own eventful times, could have fully appreciated the magnitude of the difficulties to be encountered. But they well knew, "that the soul be without knowledge, it is not "good." They were also well aware, that the only knowledge which, to the soul, is really *good*, is that which is in unison with pure and sound *Religion*. Full of this persuasion, they regarded our venerable Church as a sure and safe guide to the infant's steps. To that guide they committed the precious charge. To the fidelity of her Pastors, to the efficacy of her sacred Ordinances, to the instruction of her Rituals, to the labours of Teachers trained in her doctrine and discipline, and, above all, to the Divine Blessing upon these means and instruments of good, they looked, with undoubting confidence, for the prosperous issue of their labours.

If we who labour in the same vineyard persevere in the path which these our predecessors have trodden before us, their confidence will not have been in vain. Inexcuseable indeed will be our neglect, if with such motives to urge us, and with such means as we possess, the work were to fail through want of due support. We shall have neither inexperience nor inability to plead, in

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excuse for such failure. We see and feel the dangers that beset us, and we have powerful weapons to overcome them. However numerous the host of adversaries, however perilous the warfare, our friends are many and active, our resources abundant, our forces commensurate to the dangers. And while there is a righteous Providence to direct the issue, who shall harbour the thought, that Impiety and Irreligion are waging war against us *upon equal terms ?*

Yet let our zeal be tempered with discretion, and our confidence with caution. These are inseparable from religious wisdom; and they are especially needful in the work of Education. The difference betwixt true and false Knowledge is not always marked by so broad and distinct a line of boundary, as to be obvious to an unpractised eye. Many a plausible opinion, many an unsubstantial theory, misleads the unwary and undiscerning by its promising aspect. The *teacher*, therefore, has need to be himself guided by more than his own individual judgment. Some *public standard of collective wisdom* is requisite, to give greater weight and certainty to his instructions than that of merely *personal* estimation. Every religious community may reasonably insist upon this, as an imperative obligation; an obligation, which will not be questioned by any but those who are indifferent to the truth, or have formed no fixed principles of belief. Not only must that general knowledge of the Scriptures be required, which is the basis of all religious instruction; but

also some sufficient warrant for their right *interpretation.* What this security shall be, can admit of no doubt in the mind of any consistent member of our Church-Establishment. The teacher of youth can be at no loss for an efficient guide to his labours, while he adheres faithfully to the line marked out for him by our Creeds and Articles, and Book of Common Prayer. With the Scriptures in the one hand, and these in the other, he who materially errs in the work of Instruction, must labour under some incapacity or disqualification which unfits him for the office he has undertaken. But, for his still further aid, the venerable Society, under whose auspices these Schools were originally instituted and are still patronized and conducted, has provided such ample stores of elementary treatises on Christian Faith and Practice, that even the humblest conductor of the Parochial School, under such guidance, can hardly deviate from the right path.

I deem it unnecessary to press these subjects farther. The Institutions for which I plead sufficiently speak for themselves on all the most essential points that have been noticed. They guard equally against the evils of Ignorance, and the evils of mistaken or misapplied Instruction. They neither leave the soul "without knowledge;" nor do they infuse into it that knowledge which only "puffeth up;" much less, that which panders to its evil and corrupt propensities. The Wisdom which they inculcate is that which "is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be

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"intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without "partiality, and without hypocrisy[l]." This is the Wisdom, this the Knowledge, which shall be "the stability of our times[m]." In promoting this, you will be Benefactors to your country and to yourselves, no less than to "these little ones,' of whom it is not the will of your heavenly Father that any one "should perish[n]."

Go on, then, and prosper in the good work you have taken in hand, for these objects of your tender care. Nor doubt of an abundant recompense. You are forwarding, as far as is permitted to human agency, the great purpose for which their Creator gave them a being, and for which their Redeemer lived and died. To apply to your humbler labours, what St. Paul said of his own and those of Apollos,—You are "planting;"—You are "watering;"—and GOD in His good time, will "give the increase[o]."

[l] James iii. 17.
[m] Isaiah xxxiii. 6.
[n] Matt. xviii. 14.
[o] 1 Cor. iii. 6.

REPORT, &c.

1820.

THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE has, since the last Report, increased the number of its Members to 14,530, and the GENERAL BOARD, in communicating to their Benefactors and Friends, the abstract of their proceedings for the year 1820, feel that the ADDRESS of the SOCIETY to his MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, on his accession to the throne, claims their first attention and notice. *Report, 1820.*

On the accession of his late Majesty King George the Third, of pious memory, a dutiful Address, it appears from the Minutes of the Board, was presented by the SOCIETY; and the GENERAL BOARD felt anxious to shew a like demonstration of unfeigned respect to his present Most Gracious Majesty, who as a Member of the SOCIETY for a period of thirty years, had been graciously pleased to afford his countenance to the good work in which they were engaged. The following Address was therefore, at the request of the Board, prepared by the Right Reverend the Bishops of London and Llandaff, and the Venerable the Arch-

Report, 1820. deacons of London and Middlesex, the Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose.

"We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful "subjects, the Members of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, most humbly "solicit permission to express to your Majesty, "our unfeigned condolence, on the death of our "late most gracious Sovereign, whose exemplary "virtues, and paternal attention to the welfare of "his people, will be remembered to the latest "generations, with reverence, gratitude, and affection.

"At the same time we offer the tribute of sincere congratulation, on your Majesty's happy "accession to the Throne of this Realm; an "event, which, from your Majesty's steady adherence to the principles of your illustrious House, "we cannot but regard as highly auspicious to the "interests of our Holy Religion; which it is the "especial object of this Society to promote.

"Your Majesty condescended, on a former occasion, to signify your approbation of the Society's designs, by graciously allowing your "name to be inscribed on the roll of its Members. "We have now the satisfaction of stating, that "our labours have for several years been continued "on a scale of progressive extension. Our Missions for the conversion of the Heathen have "been ably sustained; the distribution of Bibles and Prayer Books, and religious Tracts, "has been enlarged in a tenfold proportion; we

"have multiplied our powers of action, by the "creation of subordinate Associations; we have "encreased the general stock of sound religious "knowledge, by the publication of a Family Bible, "enriched with ample Commentaries: and deeply "impressed with the importance of educating the "people in the principles of the Established "Church, we have readily undertaken the charge "of providing the numerous Schools, in connec- "tion with the NATIONAL SOCIETY, with elemen- "tary books. *Report, 1820.*

"The late wicked attacks on our Holy Reli- "gion, have called forth new exertions; and "we have reason to believe that our faithful en- "deavours have already been useful in counter- "acting the pernicious influence of seditious and "blasphemous publications.

"In thus extending the plans of the SOCIETY, "on the groundwork of its original principles, "and accommodating our modes of proceeding to "the exigencies of the times, we humbly presume "to hope, that we have proportionably strength- "ened the claims to encouragement, which your "Majesty has graciously recognized, by the sanc- "tion of your August Name: and we unite in "ardent and affectionate prayers to the Father of "Mercies, that your Majesty may long continue "to reign over a loyal and virtuous people, in the "abundance of righteousness and peace."

This Address having received the signatures of their Lordships the Archbishops and Bishops,

Report, 1820. and of many other Members of the SOCIETY, was presented by His Grace the *Lord Archbishop of Canterbury*, President of the SOCIETY, and his Majesty was pleased to receive the same in the most gracious manner.

The GENERAL BOARD now proceed to invite the notice of the Members of the SOCIETY to the transactions of the year in the following order.

I. The proceedings of the SOCIETY, with respect to its GENERAL DESIGNS, including the several departments of,

(1.) EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS.

(2.) DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS AND TRACTS.

(3.) BENEFACTIONS RECEIVED, AND OTHER OCCURRENCES AT HOME.

II. The proceedings of the SOCIETY, in connection with the DIOCESAN and DISTRICT COMMITTEES; and the transactions and concerns of those COMMITTEES themselves.

III. FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE, and the STATE of the SOCIETY'S MISSIONS.

The GENERAL BOARD submit the following account of the proceedings of the SOCIETY at large, with regard to its GENERAL DESIGNS;—and,

(1.) Its proceedings respecting EDUCATION and SCHOOLS.

Education and Schools. The returns from DIOCESAN and DISTRICT COMMITTEES, of the number of children educated in Schools supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, have much increased during the present year, and

the General Board look forward with great satisfaction to the prospect that at no very distant period, their earnest request on this subject will be very generally complied with. The number of Diocesan and District Committees, who have this year furnished the Reports requested, is increased to Seventy, and in consequence the number of children reported has proportionately advanced. This number now amounts to 165,626, and, if as in the last Report, the number of children instructed in Schools in and near the Metropolis, supplied immediately by the Board itself, and amounting to 16,320, be added, the result will give 181,946 as the total number, who from the present returns, receive the assistance of the SOCIETY. Convinced as the General Board are that this number, though great, falls very far short of the whole number of children to whom the aid of the SOCIETY is extended, they cannot omit earnestly again to press the subject on the attention of the Diocesan and District Committees, from whose laudable exertions so many benefits are derived, and by whom the several designs of the SOCIETY are so effectually promoted. *Education and Schools.*

(2.) The statement of the number of Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer Books, Tracts, &c. dispersed by the SOCIETY, between the Audit April 1820, and April 1821, is as follows:— *Bibles and other Books and Tracts dispersed.*

Bibles and other Books and Tracts dispersed.

3540 Packets of Books sent to Members on the terms of the SOCIETY; consisting of

Bibles	31,983
New Testaments and Psalters	45,455
Book of Common Prayer	84,975
Other bound Books	74,904
Small Tracts	821,044

Packets of Books issued GRATUITOUSLY.

Bibles	216
Testaments and Psalters	227
Book of Common Prayer	326
Bound Books	646
Small Tracts, &c.	6,000

Books and Papers issued for gratuitous distribution *by the* SOCIETY;

Directions for a devout and decent Behaviour in the public Worship of God, 8vo	5,069
Ditto, 12*mo*.	81,246
Papers on Sunday Schools	10,000
Jesus Christ a Pattern of Religious Virtue	20,000
On the Reverence required in praying to God	20,000
On the Reverence required in singing Psalms	20,000
On the Sacrament, and the Obligations we all lie under as Christians to receive it	20,000

The total Number of Bibles, &c. distributed on the Terms of the SOCIETY, *and gratuitously, were,* *Bibles and other Books and Tracts dispersed.*

Bibles (exclusive of the Society's Family Bible)	32,199
New Testaments and Psalters	45,682
Book of Common Prayer	85,301
Other bound Books	75,550
Small Tracts, half-bound, &c.	827,044
Books and Papers, issued gratuitously	176,315
Total	1,242,091

The following are the new Books and Tracts that have been admitted on the SOCIETY's permanent Catalogue within the past Year. *New Books admitted.*

A plain account of the Nature and Use of the Bible, with directions for using it. By the Rev. Edward Patteson, M.A.

A Manual of Instruction and Devotion, for the use of Prisoners. By the Rev. Duke Yonge, M.A. Vicar of Cornwood, Devon.

An Edition of the Psalter in 24mo. introducing the Burial Service, and the Prayers to be used at Sea, for the *Use of the Navy.*

Ditto without the above additions.

A Christian Guide for plain People, by the Rev. John Miller, M.A.

Thoughts for the Labouring Classes, by the Rev. John Miller, M.A.

It having appeared to the General Board desirable that the Greeks of the Ionian Islands should *Greek Tracts.*

Greek Tracts. be supplied with Tracts written by the Ancient Fathers of the Church, in the Greek Language, as a favourable opportunity offered of distributing them among them, the following Tracts were admitted on the SOCIETY's Catalogue.

S. Athanasius contra Gentiles. *(a*

S. Chrysostomus in Pentecosten Homiliæ duæ. *(b)*

S. Basilius ad adolescentes, quomodo ex Gentilium doctrinis proficiant. *(c)*

S. Gregorius Nazienzenus adversus Julianum Imperatorem :—prior Invectiva, *(d)*

(a) Ed. Benedict. p. 1. *(b)* (*Pp*. 18) *Tom II. p*. 602. *Ed. Benedict. Tom* V. *p*. 595. *Ed. Savil. (c)* (*Pp*. 15.) *Tom. I. p*. 570. *Ed. Par*. 1618. *(d)* (*Pp*. 60.) *Ed. Par. p*. 49. 1630.

Supplemental Catalogue. The Sub-Committee appointed to consider of, and report upon Books suited to the formation of a *Supplemental Catalogue*, were anxious, as stated in a former Report, to make as early a selection as possible, that the views of the SOCIETY might be carried into immediate effect. A large list was accordingly prepared on the urgency of the occasion, but little opportunity being allowed for very rigorous examination, this Committee are now employed in a careful revision of the works then adopted, and in the further selection of appropriate publications.

GRANTS.

Cape Settlers. It having been represented to the General Board that five Transports were about to sail with Settlers to the *Cape of Good Hope*, and applications

having been made for a supply of Books for their use; the SOCIETY's Accountant was sent down to *Deptford* in order to insure the most effectual and prudent application of the SOCIETY's Bounty. All necessary information respecting the wants of the persons on board the Transports having been collected on the spot, supplies of Books and Tracts were furnished to them to an amount exceeding £100. GRANTS.

Chatham Garrison Library.

A Garrison Library having been established at *Chatham*, for the use of the younger part of the Army and Navy, stationed in that town and its vicinity, the General Board, in consequence of an application from the promoters of it, granted a supply of all the SOCIETY's publications for their use.

King's Bench Prison.

An application having been made by persons confined in the King's Bench Prison, for a grant of religious Books from the SOCIETY; and it having been found that the suggestion had met with increased encouragement, particularly from the *Lord Chief Justice of England*, who had himself engaged to give £10 to the SOCIETY in aid of the design, the General Board agreed that £20 should be expended in furnishing a temporary supply of Books to meet the religious wants of the Prisoners, and that the Secretary should be requested to convey to the Lord Chief Justice, the sense which the SOCIETY entertain of his Lordship's important countenance and assistance of its endeavours to promote Religious Knowledge within the King's Bench Prison, and of his liberality in personally contributing to the same.

Charity of Clericus.

The important Charity of Clericus, founded for the purpose of distributing Religious Books and Tracts to his Majesty's Land Forces, has this Year received from the same unknown Benefactor, an addition of annual income equal to *one half* of its former amount.

Anti-Infidel Special Committee.

The Special Committee appointed for counteracting blasphemous and infidel publications have made a further Report of their proceedings to the Board, from which it appears that, "during the "present Year, upwards of a Million of Books "and Tracts have been printed by order of the "Committee, and about 900,000 have been issued "to the public either gratuitously or at very re-"duced prices: and the whole expence incurred "in printing and distributing these works may be "taken at 4000*l.* To meet this heavy expendi-"ture, the Committee report that the Special "Fund, including the Society's grant of 1000*l.* "amounts to 7326*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*" They further observe, "that the special sources of the Society "being thus ample, the Committee feel, that "though the efforts of the blasphemer and the "infidel, are for the present considerably relaxed, "it still would not be safe to desist from adminis-"tering remedies for the evil that has already "been effected, or to be unprepared against a re-"petition of the attack; and they consequently "venture to offer their services to the General "Board for another Year."

They add, "should this recommendation be "adopted, the Committee would further advise,

"that the SOCIETY's Office for the sale of tempo- "rary and occasional Tracts, should be continued "during the same period, and that the whole of "the SOCIETY's Books and Tracts should be sold "at that Office to the public, at such prices "as may indemnify the SOCIETY, but which "shall still be much lower than the prices, at "which they can be offered by the Booksellers. "Whether these means will suffice to accomplish "the very desirable object of obtaining an increased "demand for works on the SOCIETY's Catalogue, "among that part of the Public who are not "Members of the SOCIETY, the Committee cannot "take upon themselves to decide; but as there "is a fair opportunity for making the experi- "ment, they feel bound to recommend it to the "Board."

Anti-Infidel Special Committee.

The Committee then allude to the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, the Rules for the formation and management of which are repeated in the Appendix *, in the following terms: "The Committee concluded their last Report by "adverting to the advantage that might be ex- "pected to result from the general institution of "Parochial Lending Libraries, and they are very "glad to find, by communications from various "quarters, that the plan recently adopted by the "SOCIETY is generally approved, particularly since "from the favourable state of the Special Fund, "they shall be able, if re-appointed, to devote a "considerable sum to the supply of such demands "as may be made upon them for that purpose."

Parochial Lending Libraries.

* Appendix, No. I.

Parochial Lending Libraries.

On this Report from the Special Committee being presented, the General Board passed the following resolution:

"Agreed; that the cordial thanks of this Board "be returned to their Special Committee for "counteracting blasphemous and infidel Publica- "tions, for their past valuable exertions, and for "their third interesting Report; that their re- "commendations be adopted, and that they be "requested to continue their services for another "Year, commencing at the expiration of their "present term."

Audit, Benefactions, and Miscellaneous Particulars.

The receipts of the Society from April 1820 to April 1821, amounted to £55,245 18*s*. 7*d*. and the payments to £52,954 2*s*. 7*d*. the particulars of which will be found in a subsequent part of the Report *. During the present Year the General Board have to acknowledge a legacy to the Society of £500 from *N. Gould, Esq.* of the Crescent in *Salford*, near *Manchester*, by *Joseph Gould and Richard Gould, Esqrs.* his Executors. Also a legacy of £500, 3 per cent. consolidated annuities, from *Miss Mary Frost*, late of *Horsely*, in the County of *Gloucester*, by *E. Wilbraham, Esq.* and *W. Browning Smith, Esq.* her Executors. From the late *John Bowles, Esq.* who was at all times a zealous and active Member of the Board, and who took a deep interest in the success of the Society's Designs, by *Mrs. Bowles*, his Widow and Executrix; the sum of £200, and a contingent interest in the sale of his several publications. From *Mrs. Martha Houseman*, late of the City of *York*, a legacy of 100

* Appendix, No. II.

guineas, exclusive of the legacy duty, by the *Rev. James Richardson, John Crosby* and *H. Bourne*, *Esqrs.* her Executors. From *Mrs. Catharine Wilson*, late of *East Dereham*, in the County of *Norfolk*, a legacy of £100, by *Peter Martineau*, and *Lytton George Kier, Esqrs.* her Executors. From *Brompton Gurdon Dillingham, Esq.* late of *Grundisburgh*, in the County of *Suffolk*, a legacy of £50, by *Theophilus Thornagh Gurdon Dillingham, Esq.* his Executor. A considerable Bequest has also been made to the SOCIETY by *Mrs. Elizabeth Elkins*, late of the Parish of *Walcot*, in the County of *Somerset*, the amount of which, when ascertained, will be communicated in a subsequent Report. The General Board have also to acknowledge the very liberal offer of *Mrs. J .Mostyn*, of *Bodyscallen*, to contribute a benefaction of £100, (which has been subsequently received) towards printing a new edition of the Welsh Bible. Benefactions of £50 each, have also been received from *Mrs. Waldo*, of *Worting*,—*B. Matthews, Esq.* of *Shrubs Hill*,—and from *Mrs. Daubuz*, of *Leyton*, in *Essex*, in aid of the General Designs of the SOCIETY. Other benefactions and legacies as well as donations from Diocesan and District Committees, will be found enumerated in the Appendix *.

Audit, Benefactions, and Miscellaneous Particulars.

II. The General Board now proceed to state the proceedings of the SOCIETY, in connection with the Diocesan and District Committees, and the transactions and concerns of those Committees themselves.

* Appendix, No. III.

Diocesan and District Committees.

In this very important branch of the SOCIETY's proceedings, the General Board acknowledge with peculiar satisfaction the very cordial co-operation and assistance which the Diocesan and District Committees have evinced, and their continued attention to the wishes expressed by the SOCIETY. The Members, in the following detailed account of the transactions of these several Committees, will notice with much gratification that those designs which the General Board have considered best fitted to promote the views of the SOCIETY, have been entered upon with alacrity, and forwarded with a corresponding zeal. From such valuable assistance the General Board entertain a sanguine hope that Christian Knowledge will be so effectually promoted throughout every Diocese of the Empire, that the good effects of early instruction in Religion will be seen in that improvement in opinion and conduct, which is the natural consequence of the more enlarged diffusion of the Gospel of Christ.

The Diocesan and District Committees of the SOCIETY established at Home and Abroad, amount in the present year to 225; and it is with much satisfaction that the General Board acknowledge, that very many of their Reports have been transmitted at an early period in the present year. The General Board look forward with sanguine hope to a still more general compliance with the regulation that these Reports shall be regularly forwarded at the end of each year; since on the general adoption of it, must depend the more com-

plete detail of the progress made by the SOCIETY in this division of its designs, and since the means it has adopted to promote Christian Knowledge can then only be satisfactorily exhibited. *Diocesan and District Committees.*

It is still a subject of much and anxious attention to the General Board, that the SOCIETY's Annual Report should be early in the hands of the Members every year, and this will, it is hoped, sufficiently authorise their earnest and urgent request; as their view in making it is solely that the good effects which have attended their active and zealous benevolence, may, with as little delay as possible, be communicated to their Benefactors and Friends.

Diocese of CANTERBURY.

Canterbury.

In the Diocese of *Canterbury*, the Diocesan Committee at *Canterbury*, acting for the Deaneries of *Canterbury, Bridge and Elham*, and that part of the Deanery of *Westbere*, not included in the *Isle of Thanet*, have transmitted their report. From this report it appears that they have been active in promoting the SOCIETY's designs, particularly in the circulation of Anti-infidel Tracts. Since the last report, there have been issued from their depository, 275 Bibles, 360 Testaments and Psalters, 1000 Prayer Books, and 14,000 Books and Tracts.

Faversham.

The District Committee established at *Faversham*, for the Deaneries of *Ospringe* and *Sittingbourne*, have forwarded no account of their proceedings; nor have any reports as yet been received from the District Committee at *Ashford*, *Ashford.* for the Deaneries of *Charing* and *Lympne*; or

Diocese of CANTERBURY.

from the District Committee at *Deal*, for the Deaneries of *Dover* and *Sandwich*.

Maidstone.

From the District Committee established at *Maidstone*, for the Deanery of *Sutton*, a very favourable report has been received, from which it appears that from the demands made upon them, there is every reason to conclude that considerable anxiety exists on the part of the lower orders to improve in Religious Knowledge, and to make themselves fully acquainted with the Word of God. The number of Books distributed being, 143 Bibles, 60 Testaments, 126 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1,987 Books and Tracts, considerably exceeds that of the former year; and the Committee are happy to add, that their District Funds are in a satisfactory state.

Diocese of YORK.

York.

In the Diocese of *York*, the Diocesan Committee have at present transmitted no report, but from the reports already received, the following appears to be the state of the several District Committees throughout the *four* Archdeaconries.

Leeds.

In the Archdeaconry of *York*, the *Leeds* District Committee, in the Deanery of *Ainsty*, have sent up their annual report, from which it appears that their endeavours in promoting the several objects of the SOCIETY continue unremitted. The number of Subscribers have considerably increased, and a Committee has been established at *Leeds* to co-operate with the Special Committee of the Society to counteract Infidel and Blasphemous Publications. The District Committee have

this year distributed 123 Bibles, 67 Testaments, 356 Prayer Books, and 2903 Books and Tracts. The number of children taught in the Schools, which they supply with books, were, by a former Report, 620.

Diocese of YORK.

In the same Archdeaconry, the *Allertonshire* and *Birdforth* Committee have transmitted their first annual report, from which the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that a fair prospect is now opened of extending the benefits, which, under the Divine Blessing, may be expected from a faithful and zealous exertion of the means within their power. They have adopted the recommendation of the SOCIETY, with respect to Parochial Lending Libraries, and have taken measures to carry it into effect. They have already distributed since their establishment from the depositories at *Northallerton* and *Thirsk*, 75 Bibles, 64 Testaments, 139 Prayer Books, and 519 Books and Tracts; and the General Board anticipate with much confidence, great advantage to the several designs of the SOCIETY in their portion of the Diocese.

Allertonshire and Birdforth.

In the Deanery of *Craven*, the *Skipton* Committee have forwarded their annual report, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction, that "in furtherance of the benevolent designs of "the SOCIETY, this Committee has continued "through the last year to disperse the Holy Scrip- "tures, the Liturgy of the Established Church, "and such pious Books and Tracts in the SOCIETY's "Catalogue, as seemed calculated to benefit the

Skipton.

Diocese of YORK.

"lower orders; and in addition to these, have "distributed gratis, or put into the hands of active "agents for sale, in proper situations in this dis- "trict, upwards of 4000 anti-infidel Tracts—so "that, it is hoped, they will materially contribute "to stem the torrent of Infidelity and Rebellion." This Committee also will use their influence both collectively and individually to promote the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, and they have very assiduously promoted the wish of the SOCIETY, by procuring a return of the number of children educated in schools supplied with books from the SOCIETY, which amounts to 1590.

Doncaster.

From the District Committee at *Doncaster*, their third annual report has been received, from which it appears that their exertions in promoting the SOCIETY's designs have been particularly successful, that several subscribing members have been added to the SOCIETY, and that a greater number of books have been distributed than during any preceding year. The number of books is stated at 111 Bibles, 51 Testaments, and 3325 Books and Tracts. The Schools supplied from the SOCIETY are stated to contain 800 children. This Committee state also, that during the present year a donation of Bibles and Prayer Books, together with some appropriate Tracts, have been given for the use of the inmates of the workhouse and prison in the town. They observe that "it has "been said, that religion is the poor man's only "hope—it may with equal truth be asserted, that "it is the only consolation for the aged and in-

"firm. If in the distressing circumstances in "which the unhappy inmates of these places are "too often placed, comfort can be found on this "side the grave, it must undoubtedly be derived "from those glorious promises which are con- "tained in the Sacred Writings." They trust, therefore, "that the valuable present they have "made will be the means of conveying religious "hope and consolation where their cheering in- "fluence is so much required." This Committee have likewise taken measures for the establishment of Parochial Libraries, one of which is already provided for the town of *Doncaster*. The General Board receive with much satisfaction the assurance of the unremitting endeavours of this Committee to promote the designs of the SOCIETY. *Diocese of* YORK.

The *Sheffield* Committee, in the same Deanery, have furnished no account of their proceedings; but from a former report, the number of children educated was 5297. *Sheffield.*

In the Deanery of *Pontefract*, the *Halifax* District Committee have transmitted their report, from which it appears that they have been active in promoting the SOCIETY's designs, and that a considerable increase of members have been the consequence of their exertions. Collections have been made after Sermons preached for the benefit of the SOCIETY, and the number of books distributed is stated to be 70 Bibles, 30 Testaments, 1500 Prayer Books, and 5600 Books and Tracts. The number of Schools belonging to this District is *Halifax.*

Diocese of YORK. stated to be very considerable, and a specific enumeration is promised in a future report.

Huddersfield. From the Committee at *Huddersfield*, a report has been received, including the transactions of the last and present years, from which it appears that the number of members of the SOCIETY in that District have increased, and that during the period above-mentioned, 33 Bibles, 233 Prayer Books, and 1622 Books and Tracts have been distributed. The Committee also, in compliance with the wish expressed by the General Board, have furnished a statement of the number of children educated at Schools within the District, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, and from this statement it appears that they amount to 1424.

Wakefield. From the District Committee at *Wakefield*, two reports have also been received, and the number of books distributed during the time to which they relate, is stated to be 262 Bibles, 186 Testaments, 1184 Prayer Books and 12,318 Books and Tracts. By a former Report, the number of children educated at the Schools in that place is stated to be 1227.

In the Archdeaconry of the *East Riding*, the Beverley. District Committee at *Beverley* have made no report.

Malton. In the Archdeaconry of *Cleveland*, the *Malton* District Committee have transmitted a report of the proceedings of their fifth annual general meeting. From this report, the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that a liberal subscription has

been raised for the purpose of counteracting Infidel and Blasphemous Publications, and that various Tracts, well adapted to counteract these pernicious principles, obtained from the SOCIETY'S Special Committee, to whose funds a benefaction of thirty pounds has been made, have been some time in dispersion from the depository of the District. This Committee also report that they continue to receive strong and zealous support, and that during the present year they have distributed 108 Bibles, 95 Testaments, 223 Prayer Books, and 1850 Books and Tracts. They notice with satisfaction the formation of other Committees in their neighbourhood, and consider their establishment as affording a fresh source of sincere congratulation, since it will tend to diffuse more widely, and consequently to promote more effectually, the principles and views of the SOCIETY. *Diocese of* YORK.

The District Committee established at *Stokesley* for *Cleveland* have transmitted their second annual report, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction, that their efforts are undiminished, in promoting the several designs of the SOCIETY. They have this year distributed 74 Bibles, 100 Testaments, 227 Prayer Books, and 3656 Books and Tracts. They have also prepared collections of books for forming Parochial Libraries, and have made preparations to counteract the blasphemous effects of Infidel Publications, by obtaining a supply of the larger works published by the SOCIETY for that purpose, though they state the very acceptable information, that, *Cleveland*

Diocese of York.

by God's blessing, the infection of these horrid doctrines has not made any visible progress among the people of their district.

Whitby.

A District Committee has also been formed at *Whitby*, the primary resolutions of which have been received, and being strictly conformable to the regulations of the SOCIETY, will not fail to be effectual in promoting its several designs. This Committee have also transmitted their first annual report, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction, that a Parochial Library has been established, that a Sermon has been preached in behalf of the SOCIETY, and that the number of Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books, and other bound books distributed, amount to 498.

Newark.

In the Archdeaconry of *Nottingham*, the District Committee at *Newark* for the Deanery of *Newark*, have not as yet transmitted their report; but from a former account, the number of children educated in Schools, supplied by this Committee, exceeded 200;—and from the District Committee at *Nottingham* also, no account of their proceedings has been received; but from former reports, the number of children educated in fifteen Schools supplied with books by that Committee was 2841.

Nottingham.

East Retford.

From the District Committee at *East Retford*, a report has been received, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction, that a considerable increase has taken place of its members, and that this increase has been accompanied by a large distribution of books. The numbers distributed during the period to which this report relates,

amount to 1764 Bibles, 1038 Testaments, 3190 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1849 Books and Tracts. By a subsequent report it appears that the number of subscribing members is still further increased.

Diocese of YORK.

In the Diocese of *London,* from the reports already received, the following appears to be the state of the several District Committees.

Diocese of LONDON.

In the Archdeaconry of *Middlesex*, the *Stepney* District Committee have made their report, from which it appears that the demand for Bibles and Testaments have greatly increased. This Committee also procured a considerable number of the Tracts, printed by the SOCIETY with a view to counteract the then most prevalent evils of Blasphemy and Irreligion, and took measures for offering them to public sale. They promise also their assistance in promoting the establishment of School Libraries. The number of books distributed this year is 464 Bibles, 386 Testaments, 827 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 4575 Books and Tracts.

Stepney.

The *Bentinck Chapel* District Committee have as yet furnished no further account of their proceedings.

Bentinck Chapel.

In the parish of *St. John, Hampstead,* a District Committee has been formed, the primary resolutions of which have been received, and promise much advantage to the SOCIETY's designs.

Hampstead.

In the Deanery of *Hedingham,* the District Committee at *Castle Hedingham* have made a report, from which it appears that they have been

Castle Hedingham.

Diocese of LONDON. active and zealous in promoting the SOCIETY's designs. They paid an immediate attention to the applications from the SOCIETY, in its endeavours to counteract Infidel and Blasphemous Publications, and the General Board learn with great pleasure, that there was no reason to suspect the prevalence of Scepticism in any parish of the Deanery. The following books have been distributed during the present year, 163 Bibles, 235 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1993 Books and Tracts. They have also very accurately complied with the wish of the General Board, in the return they have furnished, of the number of children educated in Schools, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, which appears to amount to 2524.

Barking. In the Archdeaconry of *Essex*, the *Barking* District Committee have forwarded their fourth annual report, from which the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that "the sanguine "expectations which the Committee ventured to "indulge in their first annual report, have been "in a great measure realized, and the interests of "the SOCIETY have been progressively prosper-"ous." More than 300 Bibles, Testaments, Prayer Books and Psalters have been distributed, and nearly 400 Religious Tracts. "It is," they add, "a great cause of satisfaction to the Com-"mittee to find that the poison of Infidelity has "infected the District in a very small degree. "Wherever its pernicious influence has been felt, "the remedy prescribed by the SOCIETY has been

"timely, and, it is hoped, successfully applied. "Additional subscriptions were immediately raised, "and a general spirit of co-operation cheerfully "and zealously manifested." The fifth report of this Committee has also been received, from which it appears that a considerable number of Bibles and more than the usual proportion of Prayer Books, Testaments and Tracts have been distributed during the present year, and that the demand for elementary National School Books has increased considerably.

Diocese of LONDON.

Barstable and Chafford.

The *Barstable* and *Chafford* District Committee have transmitted their fifth annual report, from which it appears that they are neither aware of any want of the Scriptures within the District which has not been removed, nor of any prevailing error, to which the remedy provided by the SOCIETY has not been applied. The Committee have paid particular attention to the communication of the SOCIETY, relative to the blasphemous and infidel opinions at that time so industriously propagated throughout the kingdom. They find to their inexpressible satisfaction, that open and avowed infidelity is unheard of, and they believe that the infection has not in any degree diffused itself in either of the Deaneries. The *Chelmsford* and *Maldon* District Committee have also transmitted their report, from which it appears that with gradual but unabated zeal, they continue to promote the several designs of the SOCIETY, and that they have contributed £10 toward the Special Fund for counteracting the poison of blas-

Chelmsford and Maldon.

Diocese of LONDON. phemous and infidel publications, and by the aid of subscriptions especially raised for that purpose, have made a selection of Tracts from the SOCIETY's temporary list. During the present year they have distributed 212 Bibles, 179 Testaments, 631 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2092 Books and Tracts; and they have procured a very complete return, according to the wish expressed by the General Board, of children educated at Schools, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, by which it appears that the number amounts to 3169.

Rochford. From the District Committee established at *Rochford,* the fifth report of their proceedings has been received, from which it appears that the progress of the Committee continues to gratify their sanguine expectations, that the number of subscribers have been gradually increasing, and that the Books and Tracts which have been issued from the depository during the last year has exceeded that of the preceding.

Ongar. From the *Ongar* District Committee a report has been received, by which it appears that a Fund was raised by that Committee, for the purchase and distribution of the SOCIETY's cheap Tracts against Blasphemy and Infidelity. After the wants of the District had been supplied, the balance which remained, the General Board acknowledge with much satisfaction, has been transmitted to the Special Fund; for the use and benefit of other parts of the country.

In the Archdeaconry of *Colchester*, the *Colchester* District Committee have transmitted their report for the two preceding years, from which it appears that they have acted in strict conformity with the rules and regulations of the Society, and have been very successful in adding to the number of its members. The number of Books distributed by this Committee, is stated at 222 Bibles, 531 Testaments, 801 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2437 Books and Tracts. This Committee paid immediate attention to the application from the Society, for the purpose of counteracting the mischief arising from infidel and blasphemous publications. A Fund was raised for that purpose, but the Committee are happy to add, that the expences have not been heavy, in consequence of this wicked spirit not having been prevalent, but in a trifling degree, in this district. The General Board learn, with much satisfaction, that no less than 43 National Schools are in this District supplied with books from the Society, and that these Schools contain 2234 children. A second report has also been received, from which it appears that during the present year 43 Bibles, 102 Testaments, 304 Prayer Books, and 547 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and that the number of National Schools in the District have been gradually increasing. *Diocese of* London. — *Colchester.*

The *Saffron Walden* District Committee have forwarded their report, from which it appears that the applications for books have not diminished, that much attention has been excited by *Saffron Walden.*

Diocese of LONDON. the measures taken by the SOCIETY to counteract Infidel and Blasphemous publications, and that several Members of the Committee have gladly co-operated with the SOCIETY, by distributing at their own expence a considerable number of the Tracts put forth on the occasion, and that it may be stated with confidence that the publications so dispersed have been received with gratitude, and read with attention. The children taught at Schools in the District supplied by the SOCIETY continue to be estimated at 1800.

St. Albans. In the Archdeaconry of *St. Albans* a District Committee has been formed for the Town and Neighbourhood of *St. Albans;* the primary resolutions of which have been received, and which being in perfect conformity with the SOCIETY'S regulations, promise greatly to promote its designs.

Watford. The District Committee established at *Watford*, in this Archdeaconry, have forwarded their second annual report, in which they have great satisfaction in stating that the hopes held out last year have been fully realized. The sums collected and applied to the relief of the immediate wants of the District have been augmented, and in consequence they have been enabled to distribute a greater number of books than they had done in the preceding year. This Committee had also raised a subscription in aid of the Special Fund for counteracting Infidel and Blasphemous publications, and as they had the satisfaction to find, on investigation, that the evil had not extended to

this District, they remitted the whole of it exceeding £20, to the Fund raised by the SOCIETY. The number of books distributed by this Committee is, 55 Bibles, 93 Testaments, 169 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 323 Books and Tracts; and the number of children educated in the National School at *Rickmansworth*, amount to 160.

Diocese of LONDON.

In the Diocese of *Durham*, the Diocesan Association at *Durham*, or General Diocesan Committee, have transmitted their first annual report, from which the General Board learn with great satisfaction that the several designs of the SOCIETY are actively promoted throughout the Diocese.

Diocese of DURHAM.

Durham.

The Committee under the patronage of the Lord Bishop, have been actively employed in circulating Bibles, Prayer Books, and the Religious Tracts of the SOCIETY, and many thousand religious publications have been issued from their depôt of Books, and circulated in different parts of the Diocese, since the year 1814.

"During the present year, the Committee of the "*Durham* District Society have met once a month, "and have been zealously and actively employed "in promoting the general designs of the SOCIETY, "considering that no better method could be de- "vised for confirming the faith of the people in the "religion of their fathers, and for checking the "encroachments of schism, and for recommend- "ing the practice of the duties of Christianity. "The Committee have been more anxious to "make known the existence of the Institution, as

Diocese of DURHAM.

"they have observed with pain, that publications "of the most prejudicial tendency have been distri- "buted among the poor, which have tended in "many instances to erase from their minds the "knowledge of God, and the consolations of re- "ligion; and that respect to the constituted orders "of society, which is so essential to the happi- "ness of a people." This Committee, in consequence, unanimously resolved, that a number of the SOCIETY's Special Tracts should be procured, every exertion made to distribute them in those places where the poison of modern infidelity had spread; and that District Committees be formed in every Deanery of the Diocese.

The General Board learn also with peculiar satisfaction from this Report, that, "The Arch- "deacons of *Durham* and *Northumberland*, with "the consent of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, "have been unwearied in their exertions to form "District Committees; and in the county of *Nor-* "*thumberland* no less than six have been formed, "who are prepared and desirous to co-operate "with the Diocesan Committee, in every practi- "cable exertion to promote the designs, and extend "the knowledge of the Institution in every part "of their neighbourhood."

The General Board have also to acknowledge a very full return of Schools established in this Diocese, from which it appears that 5879 children received in them the benefit of a religious education. The amount of Books distributed by this Committee during the present year, is 425 Bibles

and Testaments, 1064 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2085 Books and Tracts. *Diocese of* DURHAM.

In the Archdeaconry of *Northumberland*, the following is the state of the several District Committees, from the reports already received. In the District of *Berwick* and North Bishoprick of *Durham*, a District Committee has been established, the primary resolutions of which have been received, from which it appears that a Select Committee has been appointed, and that considerable exertions have been made to promote the designs of the SOCIETY. *Berwick.*

In the Deanery of *Corbridge*, a District Committee has been formed, the primary resolutions of which have been received, which promise much advantage to the SOCIETY's designs. A report of their proceedings at their first Quarterly Meeting have also been transmitted, from which it appears that a Subscription has been entered into in furtherance of the objects of the SOCIETY; and the Clergy have been requested to recommend it in their Sermons, and procure contributions in its behalf. *Corbridge.*

The District Committee for the Deaneries of *Alnwick* and *Bambrough* have made their report, from which it appears that they have received very valuable support, and that the number of Books distributed since the commencement of their labours in 1815, amounts to 399 Bibles, 471 Testaments, 1116 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 21,249 Books and Tracts. *Alnwick and Bambrough.*

The General Board, from the valuable exer-

Diocese of DURHAM.

tions which have been made in the Society's behalf, look forward with much satisfaction to the continued progress of its designs in this Diocese.

Diocese of WINCHESTER.

Winchester.

In the Diocese of *Winchester*, the Diocesan Committee at *Winchester* have forwarded their seventh annual report, from which it appears that very considerable exertions were made to support the SOCIETY's efforts to counteract the attempts of Blasphemy and Infidelity; and that in this Deanery alone, no less than 7500 Books and Tracts on such subjects as might prove an antidote to the poison which had been so mischievously administered, had been circulated; and that in other Deaneries of the Diocese they had been dispersed with considerable success. It appears also, from this report, that a Sermon had been preached at *Lymington*, and a collection made for the benefit of the SOCIETY. It was also resolved in the Deanery of *Fordingbridge*, to request the Clergymen of the several parishes to preach a Sermon once in every three years, for the purpose of bringing into more general knowledge the nature and design of the SOCIETY, and at the same time to make a collection for its use and benefit.

From this report of the Diocesan Committee, the General Board are enabled to give the following account of the distribution of Books and Tracts in this division of the Diocese.

By the Diocesan Committee at *Winchester*, for the Deaneries of *Winchester*, *Sombourne* and *Alresford*, 175 Bibles, 145 Testaments, 598

Prayer Books, and 2443 Books and Tracts have been distributed. *Diocese of* WIN-CHESTER.

Basingstoke and Alton. By the District Committee for the united Deaneries of *Basingstoke* and *Alton*, 217 Bibles, 233 Testaments, 824 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1684 Books and Tracts have been distributed.

Andover. By the District Committee at *Andover* have been issued, 24 Bibles, 80 Testaments, 203 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 121 Books and Tracts.

Fareham. The District Committee at *Fareham*, for the Deanery of *Droxford*, have issued 110 Bibles, 100 Testaments, 825 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1000 Books and Tracts.

Fordingbridge. At *Fordingbridge* the District Committee for that Deanery have distributed 89 Bibles, 97 Testaments, 443 Prayer Books, and 925 Books and Tracts.

Southampton. And the District Committee at *Southampton* have distributed 72 Bibles, 40 Testaments, 280 Prayer Books, and 461 Books and Tracts.

The General Board have also to acknowledge the return of the number of children educated in the Schools supplied wholly or in part by the Society, from which it appears that in this division of the Diocese the number of schools is increased to 116, and the number of children to 7905.

Newport. From the District Committee at *Newport* in the *Isle of Wight*, two Reports have been received; from which it appears, that the number of Books issued last year were 24 Bibles, 69 Testaments, 192 Prayer Book and Psalters, and 2321 Books

Diocese of WIN-CHESTER. and Tracts; and that in the present year, 56 Bibles, 106 Testaments, 261 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1476 Books and Tracts have been distributed. From a return of children educated at Schools supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, it appears that they amount to 442.

Guernsey & Channel Islands. From the District Committee for the Deanery of *Guernsey* and the *Channel Islands*, no report has been received.

Jersey. From the District Committee for the *Island of Jersey*, two Reports have been received. The first of these contain the primary resolutions of the Committee, which embrace the several objects of the SOCIETY, and promise to be of much assistance in forwarding its designs. From this report the General Board have much pleasure in making the following extract. "In presenting "their first report, the *Jersey* District Com- "mittee have the satisfaction of stating, that they "have met with the active support and co-ope- "ration of the Friends of our truly Apostolic "Church; and they look with confidence to ad- "ditional encouragement and encreased exertions, "the more the advantages derived from the "SOCIETY are known. The people of this coun- "try have received with the greatest eagerness "and the liveliest gratitude, the Religious Books "circulated among them by the Committee; who "entertain the best grounded hopes, that, through "these means, *many* will, by the Grace of God, "*be turned to righteousness.* In prosecuting the

"important ends of this Institution, the following "books have already been distributed: Bibles, "French and English, 68; Testaments ditto, 119; "Common Prayer Books ditto, 166; Sellon's "Abridgment of the Scriptures, French, 300; "Gastrell's Institutes, 36; Wilson's Maxims, "361."

Diocese of WIN-CHESTER.

This report also contains an account of the number of children educated in Schools supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, which amount to 1310.

The second report of this Committee contains a still more favourable account of the progress of the SOCIETY'S designs in their District; they state that "before the commencement of the "operations of the Committee, a difficulty of no "small moment occurred, which has been happily "surmounted. The *Channel Islands*, forming a "part of the *Duchy of Normandy*, before their "annexation to the British Crown, the French "language was their vernacular tongue. This lan-"guage, constantly used in their Courts of Law, "and in the performance of divine Service, they "have necessarily retained to the present day. "Under such a circumstance, which would have "rendered of little avail the circulation of the "SOCIETY'S Tracts among a major part of the "islanders, the SOCIETY have allowed one third of "the subscription to be applied to translating and "printing in the French language such Tracts, "as, from time to time, may be judged necessary. "To give effect to this permission, some of the

Diocese of WIN-CHESTER. "insular Clergy, members of this Committee, have "undertaken gratuitously to translate several of "the SOCIETY's Religious Books, on which these "Reverend Gentlemen have bestowed much time, "much zeal and labour, and with which the poor "who can read have been generally provided. "In the course of two years, 1500 copies of "*Crossman's Introduction*, 1000 of the *Christian's* "*Daily Devotion*, 1000 *Stonhouse's Admonition* "*against Swearing, Drunkenness, &c.* 1000 *Ad-* "*dress to Parents attending Sunday Schools*, "1000 copies of a *Short Catechism on the Duty* "*of conforming to the Established Church*, ten "sets, each consisting of 6000 copies of *Bell's* "*System of Education*, all translated into French, "have been extensively distributed. Within this "year, 696 Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer "Books, and Religious Tracts, both in French and "English have been sold at reduced prices; and "365 Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer, and "other religious books have been delivered *gratis*." The General Board learn with great satisfaction that, "from their own observation, and from the "report of their friends, the Committee have "every reason to be satisfied that the assistance "thus afforded for the improvement of morals, "and the furtherance of piety, has produced the "most beneficial effects."

Chertsey. In the Archdeaconry of *Surry*, from the District Committee at *Chertsey*, for the Deanery of *Stoke*, no account of their proceedings have been received.

From the District Committee for the Deanery

of *Ewell*, a Report has been transmitted, from which it appears, that the demand in that District for Bibles and Prayer Books has been considerable; and that during the present year, 416 Bibles and Testaments, 942 Prayer Books, and 2014 Books and Tracts have been distributed. From a former Report the Schools in this District, supplied wholly or in part by the Society, contained upwards of 900 children.

Diocese of WINCHESTER. — *Ewell.*

In the Diocese of *St. Asaph*, the District Committee established at *Oswestry*, have transmitted no report, nor has any account of their proceedings been received from the District Committee at *Holywell*, in the Deanery of *Tegingill*. The District Committee of *Welsh Pool*, in the Deanery of *Pool*, from communications received, are engaged in promoting the SOCIETY's designs in that division of the Diocese. From the District Committee of *Machynlleth*, in the Deanery of *Keviliock*; from the District Committee of *Corwen*, in the Deaneries of *Penllyn* and *Idernin*; from the District Committee at *Denbigh*, in the Deanery of *Ross*; and from the District Committee at *Wrexham*, in the Deanery of *Bromfield*, no reports have been received.

Diocese of ST. ASAPH. — *Oswestry.* *Holywell.* *Welch Pool.* *Machynlleth.* *Corwen.* *Denbigh.* *Wrexham.*

In the Diocese of *Bangor* the Diocesan Committee at *Bangor* have made a Report of the books distributed by them during the last year, from which it appears that the number is 66 English Bibles, 59 Welch Bibles, 188 English Testa-

Diocese of BANGOR. — *Bangor.*

Diocese of BANGOR. ments, 17 Welch Testaments, 86 English Prayer Books and Psalters, 55 Welch Prayer Books and Psalters; and that the Books and Tracts in English and Welch amount to 3436. The total number of Books and Tracts distributed since the formation of the Committee, throughout the Diocese, is 33,491.

The number of children educated daily in the Schools established in the Diocese, from a former report amounted to 1692.

The following is the enumeration of the several District Committees:

In the Archdeaconry of *Bangor*, the District *Carnarvon.* Committee at *Carnarvon*, in the Deanery of *Arvon*; *Conway.* the District Committee at *Conway*, in the Deanery of *Arllechwedd*; and the District Committee at *Pwllheli.* *Pwltheli*, in the Deanery of *Llynn*.

In the Archdeaconry of *Merioneth*, the District *Dolgelly.* Committees at *Dolgelly*, in the Deanery of *Ardydwy* and *Estimanner*; at *Llanidloes*, in the *Llanidloes.* *Ruthin.* Deanery of *Arnsey*; and at *Ruthin*, in the Deanery of *Duffrynclwyd* and *Kemerch*.

In the Archdeaconry of *Anglesea*, the District *Llangefni.* Committee as *Llangefni*, in the Deanery of *Meney*, *Beaumaris.* and at *Beaumaris*, in the Deanery of *Dyndd* and *Turkelyn*.

Diocese of BATH *and* WELLS. In the Diocese of *Bath* and *Wells*, the Diocesan Committee have forwarded two reports; the one for the preceding, the other for the present year. From these reports the General Board learn with great satisfaction, that the several designs of the

SOCIETY continue to be actively promoted throughout the whole of this Diocese. From the first report it appears that particular care has been taken to ensure accurate returns of the number of children educated in Schools supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY; and also that Parochial Libraries have been established in several Parishes in the Diocese. From the second report, these several objects are found to have been pursued with equal diligence; and a very full account is given of the proceedings of the several District Committees, by the aid of which, in addition to their own reports, the General Board are enabled to report of them as follows: *Diocese of* BATH *and* WELLS.

In the Archdeaconry of *Wells*, the *Wells* and *Axbridge* District Committee continue to be actively employed in promoting the SOCIETY's designs. They have made a return of the number of children educated in Schools supplied wholly or in part by the Society, from which it appears that they amount to 2922. *Wells.*

In the Deanery of *Carey*, the *Castle-Carey* Committee have forwarded two reports. From the former it appears that, during the preceding year they have distributed 526 Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer Books, and that they contributed towards the SOCIETY's Special Fund, and took measures to carry its designs into effect in their District. From the latter, the General Board are enabled to state more correctly the number of children educated at the Schools in the District, which amount to 1594. *Castle Carey.*

Diocese of BATH *and* WELLS.

Frome.

The *Frome* District Committee in the same Deanery, have forwarded their report, from which it appears that they have continued to direct their attention to the objects of their former solicitude, and their endeavours have not been without success. They have distributed 17 Bibles, 101 Testaments and Psalters, 151 Prayer Books, and 1637 Books and Tracts. From a very full return of the number of children educated at Schools supplied with books in their District, it appears that they amount to 1653.

Yeovil.

In the Deaneries of *Merston* and *Ilchester*, the District Committee at *Yeovil* have transmitted their report for the present year, from which it appears that the objects of the SOCIETY have continued to be pursued, and there is reason to hope have, in some measure, been advanced. A depôt of books has been established at *Yeovil*, and the price of them has been reduced at the expence of the District Committee. The numerous Schools in the two Deaneries have been supplied with books, and the number of children educated in them is stated to exceed 3060, the number reported in the last account. The following books have been distributed during the present year; 31 Bibles, 63 Testaments, 204 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1804 Books and Tracts.

Bath.

In the Archdeaconry of *Bath*, the *Bath* District Committee have forwarded their report. The number of books distributed during the present year is, 162 Bibles, 176 Testaments, 1072 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 9547 Books and Tracts.

This Committee have recently determined to enlarge considerably the District depository of Books; they continue to give a very active attention to the establishment of Parochial Libraries in their District. This Committee, whilst the danger appeared at its height, procured a large supply of Anti-Infidel Tracts from the SOCIETY, and announced them for indiscriminate sale at the lowest prices, and raised also a separate District Subscription in support of this object. They have, however, the greatest satisfaction in reporting their belief, that the contagion of infidel principles has been but very partially felt in their District. The amount of children educated at Schools supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY is stated at 3418.

Diocese of BATH *and* WELLS.

In the Archdeaconry of *Taunton*, the *Bridgewater* District Committee have forwarded their report, from which it appears that a further addition has been made to the number of subscribing Members: that the District Fund is increased, and that the supply of books promises to be fully adequate in future to the demands of the District. The number of books distributed during the present year is 44 Bibles, 55 Testaments, 193 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1167 Books and Tracts. The number of children educated at Schools in the District amount to 638.

Bridgewater.

The *Crewkerne* District Committee, from the report of the Diocesan Committee, appear to have circulated during the present year, 54 Bibles, 158 Testaments, 138 Prayer Books, and 223

Crewkerne

Diocese of BATH *and* WELLS. Books and Tracts; and in the same report the number of children educated at Schools in the District supplied by the SOCIETY, is stated to be 1355.

Taunton. The District Committee for the Deaneries of *Taunton* and *Dunster,* have transmitted their report, from which it appears, that during the present year they have distributed 220 Bibles, 551 Testaments, 1187 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 4534 Books and Tracts. It appears from the Diocesan report, that the number of children educated at Schools in these Deaneries, supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, amount to 2499.

Diocese of BRISTOL.

Bristol. In the Diocese of *Bristol,* the Diocesan Committee established at *Bristol* have transmitted no report for the present year.

Dorset. In the Archdeaconry of *Dorset,* the General Committee for that Archdeaconry have forwarded their fifth annual report, together with an account of the number of children educated in the Schools supplied with books from the Society; from this, and from the reports of the Committees themselves, the General Board obtain the following account of the Committees established in the several Districts.

Dorchester. In the District of *Dorchester,* 29 Bibles, 82 Testaments, 109 Prayer Books, and 236 Books and Tracts have been distributed; and the number of children educated amount to 1777.

Blandford. In the District of *Blandford,* 15 Bibles, 22 Testaments, 218 Prayer Books, and 458 Books

and Tracts have been distributed; and 693 children educated in the Schools. *Diocese of* BRISTOL.

In the District of *Bridport*, 89 Bibles, 84 Testaments, 269 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1159 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and the number of children educated in the Schools amount to 1634. *Bridport.*

In the District of *Cerne*, 37 Bibles, 47 Testaments, 173 Prayer Books, and 176 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and 815 children are educated in the Schools. *Cerne.*

In the District of *Shaftesbury* and *Sturminster*, 59 Bibles, 45 Testaments, 252 Prayer Books, with a larger proportion of Tracts than last year have been distributed, and there are 1441 children educated in the Schools. *Shaftesbury and Sturminster.*

In the District of *Sherborne*, the Committee for that District have forwarded their report, from which it appears that the several designs of the SOCIETY are promoted in that division of the Diocese. From this report the General Board learn that 21 Bibles, 22 Testaments, 140 Prayer Books, and 772 Books and Tracts have been distributed during the last year. The number of children educated at the Schools in this District, amount to 902. *Sherborne.*

In the District of *Wimborne*, 93 Bibles, 71 Testaments, 312 Prayer Books, and 940 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and the number of children educated in the Schools, is stated to be 997. *Wimborne.*

In the District of *Wareham*, the District Com- *Wareham.*

Diocese of BRISTOL.

mittee have transmitted their report for the present year, from which it appears that 23 Bibles, 17 Testaments, 42 Prayer Books, and 102 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and the number of children in the Schools amount to 811.

Diocese of CARLISLE.

Carlisle.

In the Diocese of *Carlisle*, the Diocesan Committee at *Carlisle* have transmitted their report, from which it appears that the designs of the SOCIETY are actively promoted in that Diocese, and that a Sermon has been preached in the Cathedral in furtherance of its views. During the course of the preceding year 156 Bibles, 245 Testaments, 762 Prayer Books, and 5547 Books and Tracts were distributed; and in the present year 141 Bibles, 150 Testaments, 556 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1204 Books and Tracts; and it further appears, that since the formation of the Committee in 1814, they have issued 810 Bibles, 931 Testaments, 3570 Prayer Books, 1460 bound Books, and more than 16,000 of the SOCIETY'S Tracts.

Appleby.

From the *Appleby* District Committee no report has been received, but from a former account the number of children under instruction throughout the District, amounted to 374.

Diocese of CHESTER.

Chester.

In the Diocese of *Chester*, the Diocesan Committee at *Chester* have transmitted their report, from which it appears, that in furtherance of the SOCIETY'S views, in establishing a Special Fund for the supply of Anti-Infidel Tracts; this Com-

mittee raised a subscription, and employed themselves actively in distributing them in their District. They also acknowledge two large parcels of these Tracts, presented to them gratuitously by the SOCIETY, which they have used their best endeavours to introduce into circulation, in part by distributing them among the parochial Clergy in and near *Chester*. *Diocese of* CHESTER.

In the Deanery of *Frodsham*, the District Committee at *Runcorn* have made no Report. *Runcorn.*

In the Deanery of *Macclesfield*, the District Committee at *Macclesfield* have transmitted no account of their proceedings; nor has any report been received from the District Committee at *Maelor*. The last report received, stated the number of children educated in this District to be 528. *Macclesfield.* *Maelor.*

From the District Committee at *Blackburn*, their fifth annual report has be n received, from which the General Board learn with much satisfaction that the demand for books has continued to increase; and that during the present year this Committee has distributed 250 Bibles, 428 Testaments, 290 Prayer Books, and 4696 Books and Tracts. This Committee has been also actively employed in distributing a supply of 8000 Anti-Infidel Tracts, procured from the SOCIETY's Special Committee, a considerable part of which has been already dispersed throughout the District; and the Committee add, that they are happy to state that the information they have received, leads them to believe that the in- *Blackburn.*

Diocese of CHESTER.

flux of immoral and irreligious pamphlets has not been so great as it appears to have been in other parts of the country. This Committee is also actively employed in promoting the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries. From a very full return of the children educated at Schools in this district, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, it appears that the number of them amounts to 2867.

Clitheroe.

The District Committee at *Clitheroe* have transmitted their report, from which it appears that there is an increase in the number of books distributed in the present year above those in the preceding. In the former, 76 Bibles, 50 Testaments, 87 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1698 Books and Tracts were distributed; whilst in the latter, the number amounts to 169 Bibles, 145 Testaments, 334 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2209 Books and Tracts. The General Board learn also with much satisfaction, that the number of subscribing Members of this SOCIETY in the District has considerably increased since the formation of the Committee. From an imperfect return of the number of children educated in the District, it appears that those already known to the Committee amount to 1200.

Manchester.

The *Manchester* and *Salford* District Committee in the Deanery of *Manchester* have transmitted their report for the present year, from which the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that this Committee have been for some time gradually extending both the sphere and the

measure of their usefulness. It appears that several proprietors of great manufactories in their District have purchased and distributed a considerable number of the SOCIETY'S occasional Tracts, and that the plan for the formation and establishment of Parochial Libraries, has been adopted and acted upon. The number of Bibles, Prayer Books, and other bound books distributed during the preceding year, was 2674, and of Tracts 6081; whilst from a former account it appeared that the number of children educated at the Schools in *Manchester* exceeded 7000. *Diocese of* CHESTER.

From the District Committee at *Bolton-le-Moors*, no report has at present been received; but from the last account it appeared that 2000 children received education at the three Schools in the town. *Bolton-le-Moors.*

In the Deanery of *Warrington*, the District Committee established at *Liverpool* have transmitted their second annual report, from which they appear to be active in their endeavours to supply the spiritual wants of the poor throughout that populous district. The number of books distributed during the time included in this report, amounts to 256 Bibles, 173 Testaments, 1442 Prayer Books, and 15,642 Books and Tracts; and the whole number of books since the establishment of the Committee amount to 447 Bibles, 237 Testaments, 1992 Prayer Books, and 26,290 Books and Tracts. From the District Committee at *Ormskirk*, no report has been received. *Liverpool.* *Ormskirk.*

Diocese of CHESTER. — *Lancaster.* In the Archdeaconry of *Richmond*, in the Deanery of *Amounderness*, the *Lancaster* District Committee have transmitted their report, from which it appears that 49 Bibles, 170 Testaments, 245 Prayer Books, and 610 Books and Tracts have been distributed. This Committee, aware of the anxiety of the SOCIETY to obtain a correct return of the number of children educated in the different parishes and chapelries within the District, state the amount of them to be 3871.

Wigan. In the same Archdeaconry, a District Committee has been established at *Wigan*, the primary resolutions of which have been received. These resolutions are in strict conformity with the regulations of the SOCIETY, and it appears from them that a Local Depository of Books will be formed for the supply of the District.

Preston. From the District Committee at *Preston*, no further report has been received; but from a former account, the number of children educated in the District appeared to be 8220.

Ulverstone. The District Committee at *Ulverstone*, for the Deanery of *Furness* and *Cartmeale*, have transmitted no account of their proceedings; nor has any report been received from the District Committee at *Richmond*, for the Deaneries of *Richmond* and *Catterick*. *Richmond.*

The District Committee for the Deaneries of *Kendal* and *Lonsdale* have forwarded their second report, from which it appears that the number of subscribers has been gradually increasing, and the exertions of the Committee proportionately en-

larged. During the first year of their establishment, this Committee distributed 57 Bibles and Testaments, 81 Prayer Books, and 1067 Books and Tracts; and during the year immediately preceding the report, the number amounts to 241 Bibles and Testaments, 244 Prayer Books, and 2451 Books and Tracts. This Committee appear to have supplied several Schools in their District with books, but the number of children they contain is not specified.

Diocese of CHESTER.

Diocese of CHICHESTER.

Chichester

In the Diocese of *Chichester*, the Diocesan Committee at *Chichester* have transmitted two reports, from which the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that the designs of the SOCIETY are actively and successfully promoted by their exertions. From the first of these it appears that their funds had received a considerable augmentation by the accession of a large number of new subscribers, and that the books distributed greatly exceeded those in the former year, being 316 Bibles, 162 Testaments, 1045 Prayer Books, and 3136 Books and Tracts. From the last report it appears that the great increase in the number of members before mentioned, has been exceeded during the present year, and that the distribution of Books and Tracts during the same period has been 249 Bibles, 202 Testaments, 1047 Prayer Books, and 4309 Books and Tracts. From a former report, the number of children educated at Schools in this District, supplied wholly

Diocese of CHICHESTER. or in part with books from the SOCIETY, amounted to 2164.

Midhurst. From the District Committee at *Midhurst*, no report has been received; but by a former account, the number of children educated at Schools in the District amounted to 251.

Petworth. The District Committee at *Petworth* have forwarded no account of their proceedings for the present year.

The District Committee established at *Horsham* *Storrington.* for the Deanery of *Storrington*, have forwarded their report, by which it appears that they are actively employed in promoting the SOCIETY'S designs, by the distribution of books. They have already established several Parochial Lending Libraries, and the number of books distributed during the present year has been 100 Bibles, 279 Testaments, 571 Prayer Books, and 3392 Books and Tracts.

The District Committee established at *Uckfield*, *Pevensey.* for the Deanery and Rape of *Pevensey*, have forwarded their annual report. In this they state with great satisfaction, that the number of Books and Tracts distributed during the present year has somewhat exceeded even the very large number of the preceding year, being 152 Bibles, 212 Testaments, 444 Prayer Books, and 3243 Books and Tracts. The Committee also are desirous of forwarding the SOCIETY'S object of establishing a Lending Library for the use of the poor in every parish, under the management of the Clergyman.

The District Committee at *Hailsham* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that they are active in promoting the SOCIETY's designs. *Diocese of* CHICHESTER. *Hailsham.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Lewes*, the District Committee at *Battle*, for the *Rape of Hastings*, have transmitted their report, from which it appears that they have uniformly endeavoured to keep in view the principles upon which they were first established, and to promote to the utmost of their power the designs of the SOCIETY. In the early part of the year they obtained from the SOCIETY a supply of Books and Tracts, with a view to counteract Infidel Publications, and established a Depôt of them at *Battle*. The Anniversary Meeting was held at *Battle*, when a Sermon was preached and a collection made; and from the report read, it appeared that during the present year 49 Bibles, 197 Prayer Books, and 2203 Books and Tracts have been distributed. It is estimated that the number of children instructed in Schools in the District, assisted with books by the SOCIETY, is not less than 1200. *Rape of Hastings.*

The District Committee for the Deanery of *Lewes* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that during the present year, 150 Bibles, 252 Testaments, 627 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 5586 Books and Tracts have been distributed. This Committee availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the Special Committee of the SOCIETY, and obtained, in addition to the Tracts already enumerated, 1995 Tracts against Blasphemy and *Lewes.*

Diocese of CHICHESTER.

Infidelity, for distribution in their District. The establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries has also formed one of the primary measures of this Committee, who have still further reduced the prices of the books composing them, and have charged their own funds with the heaviest part of the original expence. Sermons have been preached and collections made in behalf of the SOCIETY, which have proved considerable.

Diocese of ELY.

Cambridge.

In the Diocese of *Ely*, the Diocesan Committee at *Cambridge* have forwarded their annual report, from which it appears that they have distributed during the present year 282 Bibles, 291 Testaments, 430 Prayer Books, 2207 Books and Tracts, and also a considerable number of Bishop Watson's Apology for the Bible, and such other Tracts on the SOCIETY'S list, as seemed best adapted to counteract the baneful effects produced by the dissemination of Blasphemous Writings.

Wisbeach.

From the District Committee at *Wisbeach*, no further report of their proceedings has been received.

Diocese of EXETER.

Exeter.

In the Diocese of *Exeter*, the Diocesan Committee at *Exeter* have forwarded their fourth annual report, from which it appears that they have been zealous and active in promoting the designs of the SOCIETY, and have received the most animating encouragement from the numerous applications made to them for books. The number issued from the Depository during the present

year amounts to 415 Bibles, 1343 Testaments and Psalters, 1890 Prayer Books, and 14,836 Books and Tracts. They have procured a very full return of the number of children educated at Schools supplied with books from the SOCIETY, from which it appears that this year they amount to 9374. *Diocese of* EXETER.

The District Committee at *Exmouth* have transmitted no report, nor has any account of their proceedings been received from the District Committee at *Honiton*. *Exmouth.* *Honiton.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Cornwall,* the *West Cornwall* District Committee, established at *Truro*, have forwarded their report, from which it appears that during the present year they have distributed 34 Bibles, 105 Testaments and Psalters, 226 Prayer Books, and 1655 Books and Tracts, and have taken measures to promote the views of the SOCIETY in appointing a Special Committee for the circulation of Anti-Infidel Publications. *Truro.*

From the District Committee at *Penzance*, for the Western Division of the Deanery of *Penrith*, and from the District Committee at *Helston*, established for the Deanery of *Kerrier*, no reports have been received. *Penzance.* *Helston.*

The District Committee at *Liskeard* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that during the present year they have distributed 34 Bibles, 38 Testaments, 157 Prayer Books, and 566 Books and Tracts. *Liskeard.*

The *East Cornwall* District Committee established at *Bodmin* have transmitted their annual report, from which it appears that 45 Bibles, 144 *Bodmin.*

Diocese of EXETER. Testaments and Psalters, 326 Prayer Books, and 1408 Books and Tracts have been distributed during the present year.

Totness. In the Archdeaconry of *Totness*, the District Committee at *Totness* have transmitted their second annual report, from which it appears that 134 Bibles and bound Books and 160 Tracts have been distributed during the present year. *Dartmouth.* In the same Archdeaconry, the *Dartmouth* District Committee have forwarded two reports, by which it appears that during the preceding year 91 Bibles and Testaments, 127 Prayer Books, and 705 Books and Tracts have been distributed; and that during the present year they have issued 112 Bibles and Testaments, 134 Prayer Books, and 1984 Books and Tracts; and that the application for books has increased, notwithstanding the recent establishment of the District Committees in the neighbourhood.

Barnstaple. In the Archdeaconry of *Barnstaple*, the District Committee at *Barnstaple* have forwarded two reports, from the first of which it appears, that during the preceding year, 56 Bibles, 90 Testaments, 428 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1511 Books and Tracts were distributed; and from the second, that during the present year the distribution has amounted to 187 Bibles, 120 Testaments, 594 Prayer Books, Testaments and Psalters, and 3236 Books and Tracts.

Holsworthy. In the Deanery of *Holsworthy*, the District Committee at *Holsworthy* have transmitted their report, from which it appears that the support they have received has had the beneficial effect of

exciting a strong desire for Christian Improvement, which the Committee now with confidence trust, from the increase of annual subscribers, will be firmly and steadily maintained. This Committee transmitted to the SOCIETY a benefaction of twenty pounds, in aid of the Special Fund, and have this year distributed 54 Bibles, 119 Testaments, 205 Prayer Books and Psalters, and many of the SOCIETY's Tracts. *Diocese of* EXETER.

From the *South Molton* District Committee, no report has been received. *South Molton.*

In the Deanery of *Woodleigh*, the District Committee at *Kingsbridge* have forwarded an account of books distributed during the present year, from which it appears that the number amounts to 41 Bibles, 144 Testaments, 286 Prayer Books, and 529 Books and Tracts. *Kingsbridge.*

In the Deaneries of *Plympton* and *Turnerton*, a District Committee has been formed at *Plymouth* for those Deaneries, the primary resolutions have been received, which are in strict conformity with the SOCIETY's regulations; and the General Board learn with much satisfaction, that the efforts of this Committee are likely to become extensive and effectual in this very populous District. *Plymouth.*

In the Diocese of *Gloucester*, the Diocesan Committee at *Gloucester* have forwarded no account of their proceedings; but it appears that they have recommended, on the receipt of the SOCIETY's *Diocese of* GLOUCESTER. *Gloucester.*

Diocese of GLOUCESTER. circular letter, the formation of Parochial Lending Libraries.

Newnham. In the Deanery of the *Forest*, the District Committee at *Newnham* have transmitted no report.

Tewkesbury. Cheltenham. In the Deanery of *Winchcomb*, the District Committee at *Tewkesbury* have forwarded no report; but from the District Committee at *Cheltenham*, their primary resolutions have been received, which are in conformity with the SOCIETY's regulations, and which promise much benefit to its designs in this division of the Diocese.

Campden. In the Deanery of *Campden*, the District Committee at *Campden* have forwarded no report; but from a former account, the number of children educated in their District at Schools supplied by the SOCIETY amounted to 1027.

Stow. In the Deanery of *Stow*, the District Committee have transmitted their eighth annual report, by which it appears that the several objects of the SOCIETY continue to be promoted by them with unremitting exertions. The result of their inquiries respecting the necessity of circulating the Anti-Infidel Tracts issued by the SOCIETY in their District, was highly satisfactory, as it proved that the contagion of Infidelity had not diffused its baneful influence in these parts of the country. During the present year, this Committee have distributed 72 Bibles, 167 Testaments, 479 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2206 Books and Tracts. They also report, that the number of children educated at Schools in their District, supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, has increased to 1373.

From the District Committee at *Cirencester*, for the Deaneries of *Cirencester* and *Fairford*, and from the District Committee in the Deanery of *Hawkesbury*, no reports have been received. *Diocese of* GLOUCESTER. *Cirencester.* *Hawkesbury.*

In the Deanery of *Dursley*, the primary resolutions of the District Committee for that Deanery have been received, from which it appears that a local depository is to be established, and that the designs of the SOCIETY may be expected to be forwarded by the conformity of these resolutions to its regulations. *Dursley.*

In the Deanery of *Stonehouse*, the District Committee at *Stroud* have forwarded no report for the present year. *Stroud.*

In the Diocese of *Hereford*, the Diocesan Committee at Hereford have forwarded no report; but a District Committee has been established at *Ludlow*, the primary resolutions of which have been received, and promise much advantage to the SOCIETY'S designs. The first report of this Committee has also been received, from which it appears that a considerable quantity of the Books and Tracts on the Society's list, have been distributed. *Diocese of* HEREFORD. *Ludlow.*

In the Diocese of *Lichfield* and *Coventry*, the Diocesan Committee at *Lichfield* have made their report, from which it appears that they will afford every assistance in their power towards the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries in the Diocese. *Diocese of* LICHFIELD *and* COVENTRY. *Lichfield.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Salop*, the District Com-

Diocese of LICHFIELD *and* COVENTRY. mittee at *Shrewsbury* have forwarded no report; but from a former statement it appears that 4380 children are educated at Schools in their District, supplied by the SOCIETY.

Shrewsbury.

Bakewell. In the Archdeaconry of *Derby*, the District Committee at *Bakewell* have forwarded no account of their proceedings; but the primary resolutions of the District Committee established at *Derby*,

Derby. for the Deaneries of *Derby*, *Repbon*, and *Castillary* have been received, which promise much advantage to the SOCIETY's designs. The number of books distributed by this Committee, already amounts to 46 Bibles, 39 Testaments, and 242 Prayer Books.

Ashborne & Wirksworth. From the *Ashborne* and *Wirksworth* District Committee their second annual report has been received, from which it appears that they recur with no small satisfaction, to the proceedings of the past year, in which they conceive their proceedings have been crowned with adequate success. From the great accession of Subscribers to their district fund, they hope that much additional service has been rendered to the cause in which they are embarked, and to the interests of Religion in general. Several charitable institutions for the aged and infirm, have been supplied with Bibles and Prayer Books; and great anxiety has been shewn to receive them, by those who were not previously possessed of them. The same benefit has also been extended to the Prison in their district, into which many useful Tracts have been introduced. The distribution of books for

the present year is, 109 Bibles, 131 Testaments, 169 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 3875 Books and Tracts.

Diocese of LICH-FIELD *and* COVEN-TRY.

Chester-field.

From the *Chesterfield* District Committee, a report has been received, from which it appears that they are actively engaged in promoting the designs of the SOCIETY.

Walsall.

In the Archdeaconry of *Stafford*, the *Walsall* District Committee have forwarded their fifth annual report, from which it appears that they are earnestly employed in recommending the several objects of the SOCIETY in their District, and that they have this year distributed 16 Bibles, 9 Testaments, 38 Prayer Books, and 1459 Books and Tracts. From the return they have made, it appears that 604 children are educated at Schools in their district, supplied by the Society with books.

Birming-ham and Coventry.

In the Archdeaconry of *Coventry*, the *Birmingham* and *Coventry* united District Committees have forwarded their first and second annual reports. From the first of these it appears, that during the year 1818, the *Birmingham* Committee distributed 218 Bibles, 231 Testaments and Psalters, 803 Prayer Books, and 6786 Books and Tracts. From the second, that during the last year the same Committee distributed 175 Bibles, 342 Testaments, 822 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 3436 Books and Tracts. A third report has also been received from the *Birmingham* District Committee for the present year, by which it appears that a great and atisfactory increase

Birming-ham.

Diocese of LICHFIELD *and* COVENTRY.

has taken place in the demand for books; there having been distributed this year 270 Bibles, 522 Testaments, 1263 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 15,123 Books and Tracts. From the returns which have been received by this Committee, it appears that 4785 children received education at Schools in this District, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY.

Coventry.

The *Coventry* District Committee, from the reports above mentioned, appear in the year 1818 to have distributed 71 Bibles, 64 Testaments, 62 Prayer Books, and 753 Books and Tracts; and in the year 1819, the distribution was greatly enlarged, amounting to 205 Bibles, 147 Testaments, 484 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1155 Books and Tracts. They return the number of children educated at Schools supplied wholly or in part with books by the SOCIETY at 6724. The exertions of these united Committees promise great advantage to the designs of the SOCIETY in this division of the Diocese.

Diocese of LINCOLN.

In the Diocese of Lincoln the following appears to be the state of the District Committees in the several Archdeaconries, from the reports received.

Lincoln Alford & Spilsby.

In the Archdeaconry of *Lincoln*, the Diocesan Committee at *Lincoln* have made no report of their proceedings. The *Alford* and *Spilsby* District Committee have transmitted their sixth annual report, from which it appears that the several objects of the SOCIETY still continue to occupy their zealous and unremitted attention. They

have procured a selection of Anti-Infidel Tracts from the SOCIETY, for the use of their District, and they promise every assistance towards the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries. They have this year distributed 118 Bibles, 126 Testaments and Psalters, 208 Prayer Books, and 2377 Books and Tracts; and they report the number of children educated at Schools in the District, supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, to be 695. *Diocese of* LINCOLN.

In the Deanery of *Gartree*, the *Kibworth* District Committee have forwarded their report, from which it appears that they have been anxious to forward the SOCIETY's object of dispersing Anti-Infidel Tracts, and have accordingly established a depôt for the purpose in their District; but the General Board learn with great satisfaction, that their division of the Diocese has been peculiarly free from the poison which they are designed to counteract. The number of books distributed this year is 187 Bibles, 194 Testaments, 223 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1284 Books and Tracts. *Kibworth.*

In the Deaneries of *Grantham, Beltisloe,* and *Loveden,* the District Committee at *Grantham* has forwarded no report for the present year.

In the Deanery of *Holland,* the District Committee at *Boston* have transmitted an account of their proceedings, from which it appears that during the present year they have distributed 34 Bibles, and 253 Prayer Books and Psalters, besides Tracts. *Boston.*

Diocese of LINCOLN.

Horncastle.

In the Deanery of *Horncastle*, the District Committee established at *Horncastle* for the three Deaneries of *Horncastle*, *Gartree*, and *Hill*, have transmitted no report.

Louth.

In the Deaneries of *Louth-Eske* and *Ludbrough*, the District Committee at *Louth* have transmitted two reports, from the first of which it appears that during the preceding year 77 Bibles, 46 Testaments and Psalters, 139 Prayer Books, and 912 Books and Tracts were distributed; and from the second, that the distribution during the present year has amounted to 48 Bibles, 75 Testaments and Psalters, 150 Prayer Books, and 1551 Books and Tracts. From a return of the number of children educated at Schools in the District, supplied with books wholly or in part by the Society, it appears that they amount to 668.

Caster and Grimsby.

In the Deaneries of *Yarburgh* and *Grimsby*, the united District Committee of *Caster* and *Grimsby* have transmitted their report; from which it appears that they have distributed since the commencement of the Committee, 502 Bibles, 260 Testaments, 1278 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 3183 Books and Tracts.

Stow.

In the Archdeaconry of *Stow*, the District Committee for that Archdeaconry have transmitted no report.

Bedford

In the Archdeaconry of *Bedford*, the District Committee at *Bedford* have forwarded their report, from which it appears, that during the last year there have been distributed by them 82

Bibles, 88 Testaments, 452 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 3208 Books and Tracts. *Diocese of* LINCOLN.

In the Archdeaconry of *Bucks*, the District Committee at *Newport Pagnell* have forwarded a report of their proceedings, from which it appears that they entered into a subscription to procure a supply of Anti-Infidel Tracts from the SOCIETY, which were put into gratuitous circulation; but they are happy to observe that the disease of the Times had scarcely made its appearance in their neighbourhood. They have distributed during the present year, 52 Bibles, 134 Testaments, 239 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 190 Books and Tracts. *Newport Pagnell.*

From the *South Bucks* District Committee no report has been received. *South Bucks.*

In the Deanery of *Wendover*, the District Committee at *Aylesbury* have forwarded their report, from which it appears, that during the present year 77 Bibles, 71 Testaments, 351 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1584 Books and Tracts, have been distributed; that the total number issued, since the establishment of the Committee, is 273 Bibles, 439 Testaments, 1243 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 5628 Books and Tracts; and that much benefit has been derived to the District from this distribution. From a former report it appeared that 1500 children were educated at Schools in that district supplied by the SOCIETY. *Aylesbury.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Huntingdon*, the District Committee at *Hertford* have transmitted no report; but the fifth annual report of the *Great* *Hertford.*

Diocese of LINCOLN.

Berkhamstead.

Berkhamstead Sub-Committee has been received, in which they express very great and unfeigned satisfaction at being enabled to state that, in proportion as the highly important and interesting objects of their institution have become more generally known, they have excited a more zealous co-operation, and obtained a more liberal and extensive encouragement. This Committee transmitted a considerable contribution to the SOCIETY'S Special Fund; but they report with sentiments of peculiar satisfaction and the sincerest thankfulness, that they have not observed in this district any symptoms of the malignant infection derived from blasphemous and infidel publications.

This Committee notice with satisfaction the exertions of the SOCIETY for the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, under the immediate controul of the Minister of each Parish. The books distributed this year, amount to 94 Bibles and Testaments, 105 Prayer Books, and 1897 Books and Tracts.

Huntingdon.

In the Deanery of *Huntingdon*, the District Committee at *Huntingdon* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that during the present year 76 Bibles, 102 Testaments, 341 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2882 Books and Tracts have been distributed; and that the number of children in the Schools in this District, supplied wholly or in part by the Society, amounts to 821.

Loughborough.

In the Archdeaconry of *Leicester*, the District Committee at *Loughborough* for the Deanery of

Ackley, have forwarded their report, from which it appears that accessions have been made to the SOCIETY of Subscribers resident within the District, and of contributors to the District Fund. The local depository has been found of considerable advantage; the number of books distributed amounts to 385 Bibles and Testaments, 644 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 2258 Books and Tracts. It has been resolved to hold Quarterly Meetings alternately at *Loughborough* and *Ashby-de-la-Zouch*. This Committee earnestly recommend the adoption of Parochial Collections, conceiving that among other advantages a knowledge of the SOCIETY's designs is thereby extended. From a very full return of Schools in the District, it appears that the number of children in them, receiving instruction from the books furnished by the SOCIETY, amounts to 2906.

Diocese of LINCOLN.

Leicester.

The District Committee at *Leicester*, for the Deanery of *Leicester*, have forwarded no report; nor has any account of their proceedings been received from the District Committee at *Melton Mowbray*.

Melton Mowbray.

Lutterworth.

From the District Committee at *Lutterworth*, for the Deanery of *Goodlaxton*, no report has been received

Diocese of LLANDAFF.

Cowbridge.

In the Diocese of *Llandaff*, the District Committee at *Cowbridge* have forwarded two reports for the preceding and the present year, from both of which, the General Board observe with much satisfaction, the zealous exertions made in forward-

Diocese of LLANDAFF.

ing the SOCIETY's designs. From the former of these it appears, that during the preceding year, 170 Welch and English Bibles, 258 Welch and English Testaments, 533 Welch and English Prayer Books and Psalters, and 3290 Books and Tracts were distributed; and for the latter, that this Committee remitted a donation in aid of the SOCIETY's Special Fund, and that the number of books distributed during the present year has been, 178 Welch and English Bibles, 351 Welch and English Testaments, 603 Welch and English Prayer Books and Psalters, and 5277 Books and Tracts; and that the total number of Books distributed since the establishment of the Committee is, 773 Bibles, 1081 Testaments, 3508 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 13,164 Books and Tracts. This Committee having adopted the resolution "that in all applications for School-"books, the Subscriber applying, do state the "number of children so benefited by them;" the result has been a return of 1617 children educated at Schools in this division of the Diocese, supplied wholly or in part with Books from the SOCIETY.

Usk.

The District Committee at *Usk* have also made their report, from which it appears that several new members have been added to the Committee, and that during the present year 83 Bibles, 94 Testaments, 209 Prayer Books, and 2007 Books and Tracts have been distributed.

Diocese of NORWICH.

Norwich.

In the Diocese of *Norwich*, the Diocesan Committee at *Norwich* have forwarded their report,

from which it appears that since the establishment of the Committee, they have distributed 1713 Bibles, 3519 Testaments, 9115 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 60,900 Books and Tracts. This Committee have used much diligence in obtaining the number of children educated at Schools in the county of *Norfolk*, and from the imperfect returns they have received, it appears that they considerably exceed 6030, the number obtained. *Diocese of* NORWICH.

In the Archdeaconry of *Norfolk*, the *Swaffham* District Committee have made no report for the present year, nor have the District Committee at *North Walsham* furnished any account of their proceedings. *Swaffham.* *North Walsham.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Sudbury*, the District Committee at *Bury* have forwarded no report, but from the *West Suffolk* District Committee a report has been transmitted, from which it appears that they are actively engaged in promoting the SOCIETY's designs. This Committee have lately turned their attention to the formation of Parochial Lending Libraries, and confide in the expectations that they shall be enabled to furnish the poor with encreased opportunities for indulging their inclination for instructive and salutary reading. They report that they have distributed 233 Bibles, 396 Testaments, 417 Prayer Books, and 5287 Books and Tracts, and that the number of children educated at Schools within the District, supplied with books by the SOCIETY, is nearly 2000. *Bury.* *West Suffolk.*

In the Archdeaconry at *Suffolk*, the District Committee at *Ipswich* have forwarded no report. *Ipswich.*

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Diocese of NORWICH.

Framlingham.

The *Framlingham* District Committee have transmitted their report, from which it appears that they continue to forward the SOCIETY'S designs, and receive considerable support.

Halesworth.

From the District Committee at *Halesworth,* established for the Deaneries of *Lothingland, Wangford, Dunwich,* and *Southelmham,* their second and third annual reports have been received, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction that their exertions have been well seconded in their district, and that they have obtained many new subscribers. Two depositories, one at *Yoxford,* and another at *Beccles,* have been added to those already formed at *Halesworth and Lowestoft,* and they have been enabled to make a considerable reduction in the price of books. In the preceding year 183 Bibles, 95 Testaments, 584 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1300 Books and Tracts have been distributed, and in the present year the distribution of books has amounted to 234 Bibles, 334 Testaments, 1078 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 4305 Books and Tracts.

Woodbridge.

The District Committee at *Woodbridge* have forwarded no report.

Diocese of OXFORD.

Oxford.

In the Diocese of *Oxford,* the Diocesan Committee at *Oxford,* have forwarded their fourth annual report, from which it appears that the efforts of the Committee in promoting the beneficial objects of the SOCIETY have continued to prosper, and that the utility of the Institution has been in various respects extended. This Committee have

taken means for making extensively known the SOCIETY's plan for the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, and have recommended them to the notice of their district, and have promised their attentive consideration to every application of the Clergy for them. The number of books distributed during the present year by this Committee, amount to 176 Bibles, 390 Testaments, 736 Prayer Books, besides a large number of Books and Tracts; and the whole number distributed within the last three years has been 865 Bibles, 1167 Testaments, and 2639 Prayer Books. The number of children educated at the National and Village Schools in *Oxford* and the neighbourhood supplied with Books from their depository, is stated to amount to more than 750.

Diocese of OXFORD.

Watlington.

The *Watlington* District Committee appear from the accounts received, to be anxious to aid in the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries on the plan proposed by the SOCIETY, whenever the opportunity offers in their District.

Henley upon Thames.

From the District Committee established at *Henley-upon-Thames*, for the Deanery of *Henley*, no report has been received, but from a former report it appears that the number of children educated in Schools in the District, supplied wholly or in part with books from the SOCIETY, amounted to 822.

Deddington and Chipping Norton.

The *Deddington* and *Chipping Norton* District Committee, for the Deaneries of *Deddington* and *Chipping Norton*, the borough of *Banbury*, and the adjacent parishes, have forwarded their second annual report, from which it appears that

Diocese of OXFORD. they have not been disappointed in the hopes which they indulged with regard to the utility of the Institution. From a subsequent account the General Board learn with satisfaction that the issue of Books has increased in a great proportion during the present year, and that the Book of Common Prayer in particular has been sought after with the greatest eagerness by the poor. Great exertions have been made by this Committee to obtain the number of the children educated in the District, at Schools supplied with books wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, and from the imperfect returns they have received, it appears that in 17 parishes out of 43 they amount to 1260. The number of books distributed during the present year amounts to 128 Bibles, 125 Testaments, 654 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1595 Books and Tracts. This Committee continue to invite the the attention of the Parochial Clergy to the benefit which would be derived to the Institution from Sermons and Parochial Collections.

Diocese of PETERBOROUGH. *Peterborough.* In the Diocese of *Peterborough*, the Diocesan Committee at *Peterborough* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that they are actively engaged in promoting the SOCIETY'S designs, and that during the present year they have distributed 44 Bibles, 23 Testaments and Psalters, 105 Prayer Books, and 163 Books and Tracts.

Daventry. From the District Committee at *Daventry* a report has also been received, from which it ap-

pears that during the present year they have distributed 93 Bibles, 68 Testaments, 317 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 243 Books and Tracts. *Diocese of* PETERBOROUGH.

North-ampton. The District Committee at *Northampton*, for the Deanery of *Northampton*, have transmitted a report of their proceedings, from which it appears that they have been actively employed in promoting the designs of the SOCIETY. Their Quarterly Meetings have been regularly held; they have established a depository of Books for the supply of their District, and during the last three years have distributed 120 Bibles, 300 Testaments, 600 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 4057 Books and Tracts. The Central National School at *Northampton*, consisting of upwards of 300 children, has been wholly supplied with Books from the SOCIETY.

Oundle. The District Committee at *Oundle*, for the Deanery of *Oundle*, have transmitted no report for the present year.

Brackley. From the District Committee for the Deanery of *Brackley-cum-Towcester* a report has been received, from which it appears that their active exertions have been employed in promoting the SOCIETY'S designs. They look forward with confidence to that zealous co-operation of which their utility to do good will be more and more enlarged in every succeeding year. The Books distributed amount to 195 Bibles, 110 Testaments, and 236 Prayer Books.

Upping-ham. The District Committee at *Uppingham*, for the Deanery of *Rutland*, have made no report.

Diocese of ROCHESTER.

Rochester.

In the Diocese of *Rochester*, the Diocesan Committee at *Rochester* have forwarded their annual report, from which it appears that they continue actively and zealously to promote the several objects the SOCIETY has in view. The number of their subscribing members has increased, and they have used their best endeavours to carry the SOCIETY's plan for the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries into full effect in their District. A supply of anti-infidel Tracts from the SOCIETY's stores was ordered, and a considerable number have been disposed of by means of the friends of the Committee, which it is hoped will prove an antidote to the infidelity and profaneness so industriously propagated among the lowest classes of the community. This Committee has also, in compliance with the request of the General Board in the last annual report, obtained a full return of the number of children educated at Schools in their District supplied with Books from the SOCIETY, and the number amounts to 1370. The number of books distributed during the present year is 108 Bibles and Testaments, 159 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1815 Books and Tracts.

Dartford. In the Deanery of *Dartford*, the District Committee at *Dartford* have made no report for the present year.

Bromley. The *Bromley* District Committee, in the same Deanery, have forwarded their fifth annual report, from which it appears, that during the last year the general designs have been successfully prosecuted;

the funds have been equal to the expenditure, and the demand for Books has continued steady. The distribution has been as follows: 48 Bibles, 26 Testaments, 51 Prayer Books, and 649 Books and Tracts. The triennial meeting of all the Schools in the district, who receive assistance in education from it, was held on the 3rd day of August, in the present year, when 901 children attended divine service at *Bromley*. The number in the Schools is now 932.

Diocese of ROCHESTER.

The *Blackheath* District Committee in the same Deanery have transmitted their annual report, from which it appears that they have resolved zealously to promote the views of the Society in the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, and have taken measures to carry this object into full effect. The number of books distributed during the present year is, 163 Bibles, 43 Testaments, 431 Prayer Books, and 2012 Books and Tracts; and the whole number distributed since the formation of the Committee is 637 Bibles, 280 Testaments, 3306 Prayer Books, and 16,169 Books and Tracts. From the returns of the Clergy of the respective Parishes in the District, it appears that 5200 children are at present receiving instruction in the principles of the Established Church.

Blackheath.

In the Deanery of *Malling*, the District Committee established at *Tunbridge* have forwarded their report, from which it appears that since their establishment they have distributed 1085

Tunbridge.

Diocese of ROCHESTER. Bibles, 1142 Prayer Books, and 6800 Books and Tracts.

Gravesend. From the District Committee at *Gravesend*, in the Deanery of *Rochester*, no report has been received; but by a former account the number of children educated in this District at Schools supplied wholly or in part with books by the SOCIETY, was 510.

In the Deanery of *Shoreham*, the District Committee at *Seven Oaks* have transmitted their report, by which the distribution of books during the present year appears to have amounted to 62 Bibles, 55 Testaments, 289 Prayer Books, and 1253 Books and Tracts. By the last report it appeared that 853 children received education in the Schools in this District which the SOCIETY supplied with books.

Seven Oaks.

Diocese of SALISBURY.

Salisbury. In the Diocese of *Salisbury*, the Diocesan Committee at *Salisbury* have transmitted their sixth annual report, from which the General Board learn with satisfaction, that the Committee are actively and successfully engaged in accomplishing the beneficial ends for which they were at first appointed. They are anxious to encourage the formation of Parochial Lending Libraries, on the plan recommended by the SOCIETY; and have introduced its regulations into their report, for the information of their District. The number of books they have distributed during the present year amounts to 137 Bibles, 286 Testaments and

Psalters, 437 Prayer Books, and 2863 Books and Tracts. By a former report it appeared that 2290 children received education at the Schools in the District, supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY. *Diocese of* SALISBURY.

In the Deanery of *Malmsbury*, the *Chippenham* and *Malmsbury* District Committee, and in the Deanery of *Poltern*, the District Committee at *Trowbridge* have furnished no account of their proceedings for the present year. *Chippenham and Malmsbury.* *Trowbridge.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Wilts* and Deanery of *Cricklade*, the District Committee at *Swindon* have made no report. *Swindon.*

In the Archdeaconry of *Berks*, the District Committee at *Newbury* in the Deanery of *Newbury*, have forwarded an account of their proceedings, from which it appears that they are anxious to give every assistance in their power to the establishment of Parochial Lending Libraries, on the plan recommended by the SOCIETY, and in conformity with its regulations. *Newbury.*

From the District Committee at *Reading*, in the Deanery of *Reading*, and from the District Committee at *Windsor* in the same Deanery, no reports have been received. *Reading.* *Windsor.*

The *Wokingham* District Committee in the same Deanery have forwarded their report, in which they pledge themselves to a continuance of exertion in promoting the designs of the SOCIETY. This Committee have, during the present year, distributed 179 Bibles, 101 Testaments, 254 Prayer Books, besides Books and Tracts. From a former *Wokingham.*

Diocese of SALISBURY. report the number of children educated in Schools supplied wholly or in part with Books from the SOCIETY, appeared to be 218. This Committee have recommended to the SOCIETY several new members during the present year.

Wantage. In the Deanery of *Abingdon,* the *Wantage* District Committee for that Deanery have forwarded their report, from which it appears that during the present year 92 Bibles, 75 Testaments, 234 Prayer Books and Psalters, and 1268 Books and Tracts have been distributed. This Committee have procured a very full return of the number of children educated in their District, at Schools supplied wholly or in part by the SOCIETY, from which it appears that they amount to 1897.

Diocese of WORCESTER. *Worcester.* In the Diocese of *Worcester,* the Diocesan Committee established at *Worcester* have made a very full report of the state of several Committees in the Diocese, from which the General Board are enabled, with much satisfaction, to make the following statement.

The Diocesan Committee at *Worcester*, acting as a district Committee for the Deanery of *Worcester*, have, during the present year, distributed 120 Bibles, 267 Testaments, 719 PrayerBooks, and 3322 Books and Tracts. The number of children educated at Schools in this District, supplied by the SOCIETY, amounts to 1436.

Droitwich. In the Deanery of *Droitwich*, the District Committee at *Droitwich* have distributed, during the present year, 114 Bibles, 133 Testaments, 93 Prayer Books, and 1379 Books and Tracts.

"ments in Church and State, and have at heart "the diffusion of sound religious knowledge, the "encouragement of virtue and piety, and the "consequent promotion of the peace and happi-"ness of mankind."

Diocese of WORCESTER.

In the Diocese of *Sodor and Man*, the Diocesan Committee have forwarded no report of their proceedings to the Society.

Diocese of SODOR & MAN.

The General District Committee of the *North of Scotland* have transmitted their first annual report, from which it appears that active measures have been taken to forward the SOCIETY's designs in that District; that Quarterly Meetings have been established, and a depository of books formed. A considerable accession of Members to the SOCIETY, as well as to the District Committee, followed the circulation of their primary resolutions, which promised much assistance to their endeavours. To this Committee has been consigned the Edition of the Book of Common Prayer in the *Gaelic* language, printed at the sole expence of the SOCIETY; and they have taken efficient measures for its due distribution in their District. They also procured a supply of the Anti-Infidel Tracts from the SOCIETY, but it was soon perceived that the poison which these Tracts were so well calculated to counteract, had as yet happily made little or no progress in the District. The amount of books distributed by this Com-

North of Scotland.

North of Scotland. mittee is as follows: 101 Bibles, Psalters, and Testaments, 324 Prayer Books, and 6704 Books and Tracts.

Diocese of CALCUTTA

Calcutta. In the Diocese of *Calcutta*, the Diocesan Committee at *Calcutta* appear, from their report for the year 1820, to promote with great success the several designs of the SOCIETY. Early in the year, the Committee received a large consignment of the SOCIETY'S Family Bible, to the value of 558*l.* forty copies of which have been disposed of. The Committee having likewise received from the SOCIETY, in the course of the year, very large consignments of Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer Books, and religious Tracts, have been enabled to furnish abundant supplies of those Books and Tracts to the several depôt stations, particularly to the depôts at *Dinapore* and *Meerut*, and to the depôt recently established at *Dacca* and *Chittagong*. Of Prayer Books, Tracts, and elementary Books, the Committee have also continued to afford supplies, as they have been called for, to the *Military Orphan Asylum*, the *Free School*, the *Female Orphan Asylum*, and other charitable Institutions, and wherever else occasions have been offered for distributing them to advantage. Upon a representation from *T. C. Plowden, Esq.* that he had found the Books and Tracts, obtained from the stores of the Committee, highly useful and acceptable to persons employed in his office, it was resolved to make known, to the Christians employed as Writers in the several principal Public

Offices, the existence of these publications, which are so cheap, and so much calculated to do good. Accordingly, a circular on the subject was addressed to the heads of departments. In this circular, the Committee respectfully request, that catalogues of the Books and Tracts may be circulated among the Christians employed in several public offices; and, at the same time, give an assurance, that, upon the application of the head of each department, they will have much pleasure in supplying from their stores, either at reduced prices, or gratuitously, whatever may be required for the use of such persons. A great number of persons thankfully availed themselves of the offer; and a large quantity of Books and Tracts were furnished accordingly, the greater part being regularly paid for at the SOCIETY's prices. A small stock was also placed under the care of *Dr. Willich*, for the use of the apprentices and other Christians employed in the Botanical Gardens.

The Committee being desirous of turning their attention to the translation of Tracts into the languages of India, and the SOCIETY having, in addition to former grants, placed another sum of 1000*l.* at the disposal of the Right Reverend the *President;* his Lordship has resolved to appropriate a part of the sum to the expence of publishing a translation into *Hindostannee*, both in the *Nagree* and *Nustaliq* characters, of "*Sellon's abridgment of the Holy Scriptures,*" a work admirably calculated for the purposes of the Committee. The superintendence and revision of this work has been kindly

undertaken by the *Rev. D. Corrie*, under whose care it has already made considerable progress. The Committee anticipate means of doing very extensive good in the department of translating and printing the Society's Books and Tracts, by the happy instrumentality of the "*Mission College of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,*" now happily commenced; while they also hope, that the liberality of the public will enable them at present to effect something under this head, which is likely to become so important a branch of their labour.

Respecting the Native Schools, the Committee state, that the circle to the southward of *Calcutta*, has been completed by the addition of two Schools, one at *Russapugly*, and the other at *Ballygunge*; that both these Schools were filled almost as soon as opened; and that the attendance of the children has continued undiminished. A class has been selected, from the several Schools in the circle, of the best proficients in *Bengalee*, who, after attending the regular duties of the morning in their own School, assemble in the afternoon in the Central School of *Beltollah*, to receive instruction in English. The Committee also state, that they have at length been enabled to commence a second circle of Schools in the District of *Cossipore*, to the northward of *Calcutta*, where some degree of difficulty had before been experienced. Two spots, well situated with reference to the population and to means of access, have been procured on *Pottahs* for ten years. The Schools were nearly

completed, and were to be opened early in the year 1821. An able Pundit was engaged for the immediate superintendence of their Schools; and the Committee were prepared to establish, and to complete the circle as favourable opportunities shall offer.

The Committee, have taken under their patronage, and have provided a teacher for the principal school at *Barripore*; they have also determined to revive three or four other Schools, which were formerly established at the same place, as competent masters may be found.

The Christian School at *Barrackpore*, under the patronage of the Most Noble the *Marchioness of Hastings*, has likewise been placed under the care of the Diocesan School Committee; her Ladyship having been pleased to signify her wish of transferring it to them, and her intention of providing funds for its support. The Committee having expressed their sense of the honour conferred on them by this mark of confidence, her Ladyship was generously pleased to inform them, that "being solicitous to place the School in their hands in good repair, to prevent the necessity of any great expense till the fund proposed for its support shall have accumulated," she would consider the Committee as prepared to take the charge of it from the 1st of *January*, 1821. The School meanwhile was to undergo a thorough repair.

The Committee, in consequence of representations made to them, have lately turned their

attention to the remote and obscure station of *Noacolly*, in the District of *Tipperah*; and have determined to establish a School at that place. *Mr. Plowden*, who kindly interests himself respecting the condition of a Christian population settled around him, having engaged to defray the expence of the building, and to superintend the management of its concerns, the Committee have provided a Schoolmaster competent to take charge of the School.

The Right Reverend the *President* of the Committee having announced his intention of establishing a Christian School, to be attached to the new Church of *St. James*, in *Calcutta*, the Diocesan School Committee, who understood that the sum in his Lordship's hands would not be fully adequate to complete the work as might be desired, placed at his disposal, if it should be required, a further sum of 2000 Sicca Rupees.

Madras.

The District Committee at *Madras* continue to promote with unabated zeal, the several designs of the SOCIETY in that division of the Diocese. In a very important despatch recently transmitted by *Richard Clarke, Esq.* Secretary to the *Madras* District Committee, the following passages occur:

"The establishment of local deposits of Books
" at the principal stations of this Presidency,
" under the superintendence of the resident Chap-
" lain, has been attended with all the success
" which had been anticipated from the measure,

"The distribution of Bibles, Prayer Books, and "religious Tracts, has been increased; the benevolent designs of the SOCIETY have become more "generally known, and their operations more "extensively useful. In the absence of the "Chaplain of *Bellary* (who is in *England* on a "sick certificate) the Committee have accepted "the proposal of *Captain Clarke*, of his Majesty's "46th regiment, (and one of their members), to "form a depôt at that extensive station; and the "Books have accordingly been placed in charge "of that Gentleman, on the same terms as at the "other depôts, until a Minister shall resume the "clerical duties of the station."

Madras.

"The District Committee have received a "letter of advice from the Rev. *Mr. Parker*, "respecting a supply of books shipped on board "the *Lady Kennaway*, and the books have also "been duly received. The Committee have "taken into consideration the letter of the Rev. "Archdeacon *Owen*, Chaplain General to his "Majesty's Forces, and of the Rev. *Mr. Parker*, "relative to the grant of books for the use of his "Majesty's regiments serving under the Presidency of *Madras*; and the supply of these "books for the years 1818 and 1819 having been "received, they have instructed the Select Committee to distribute them according to the directions given in the Rev. *Mr. Parker's* letter. "The SOCIETY shall be apprized of their special "appropriation."

Diocese of CALCUTTA
Madras.

" The SOCIETY will be gratified to learn that the " *Vipery Mission Press*, has been successfully re- " established. The Missionaries have evinced " considerable judgment in the selection of the " works edited by them, as well as very praise- " worthy exertions in their speedy completion. " The District Committee have admitted on their " local list the following translations into *Tamul* " of works approved by the SOCIETY, which have " lately issued from the *Vipery Mission Press*, " viz.:

The Psalter of the Church of England.
The Parables of our Blessed Saviour.
The Miracles of our Blessed Saviour.
" *A Series of the National Society's Reading* " *Books, from the Alphabet to Book No. 2, in* " *Tamul and English.*

" Copies of these works are presented to the " SOCIETY, and in the binding of them, a fair spe- " cimen is displayed of the skill and industry of " the SOCIETY's servants at the *Vipery Mission* " *House.* The District Committee anticipate the " SOCIETY's entire approbation of what has been " done*, on account of the benefits resulting from " the measure that has been adopted. For in " making this purchase, the Committee have af- " forded such pecuniary aid to the Mission Press, " as will materially contribute to discharge the

* Some particulars respecting the proceedings of the *Madras* Committee will be found in the account of the SOCIETY's *East India* Mission, at page 117, et seq.

" outstanding demands against it, and ensure its " future operations from embarrassment. And " what is still more important, the Committee have " been enabled to send a much needed and most " seasonable supply of *Tamul* reading and School " Books to the several Missionary stations in " southern *India*, in order to relieve the pressing " demands of the Congregations and Schools, for " elementary works of Education."

Diocese of CALCUTTA

Madras.

The Board are happy to take the earliest opportunity of publicly expressing their grateful acknowledgment to the *Madras* District Committee, for having exercised a vigilant superintendence over the financial concerns of the SOCIETY in the Missionary department; and likewise to *Mr. Clarke*, for the uniform kindness and attention he has shewn to the Missionaries. The SOCIETY, indeed, cannot express their sense of the eminent services rendered by the *Madras* Committee, by whose wise and zealous exertions the Missions have been restored to a flourishing condition, in more appropriate terms than those used by the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta.*

On Board the Ship Susan, near Kedjeree,
22d January, 1821.

My dear Sir,

YOUR Letter of the *17th November*, enclosing the first report of the *Vipery* Mission Press, reached me about three weeks ago, at a time when it was impossible that I should reply to it, but I now avail myself of the retirement of my cabin, though amidst much noise and bustle, to assure you briefly of the sincere satisfaction which that Report and your Letter which accom-

Diocese of CALCUTTA — *Madras.*

panied it have afforded me. The labours of the *Vipery* Press within the short interval of one year from its re-establishment, have indeed been very great; and it cannot fail to hold a distinguished place among the means and instruments which Providence appears to be calling forth into action, in aid of the Christian cause. The documents relating to the same subject, and addressed to the Secretary of the Diocesan Committee, were read before at a General Meeting, and heard with unqualified pleasure; and in the Annual Report now in the press, the Committee have endeavoured to represent the high sense which they entertain of the zealous co-operation of their brethren and fellow-labourers at *Madras.* It was also a subject of great satisfaction to learn that a report may be expected from the *Madras* District Committee; the withholding of details connected with proceedings so ably conducted, and directed to such benevolent purposes, are, indeed, so far as it extends, a loss to the Christian world.

I remain,
My dear Sir,
With the highest esteem,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) T. F. CALCUTTA.

TO RICHARD CLARKE, ESQ.
Secretary to the Madras District Committee.

The Board have received, with feelings of sincere regret, the intelligence of the death of the Rev. *Dr. Mousley*, Archdeacon of *Madras.* By this melancholy event, the SOCIETY, as well as the Church in *India,* have sustained a very severe loss.

Bombay. The District Committee at *Bombay* have transmitted their second report, from which it appears

that they have promoted, with great activity, the several designs of the SOCIETY; and that their exertions have been accompanied with the desired success. Since the last report they have distributed 170 Bibles, 360 Testaments and Psalters, 1391 Prayer Books, and 5536 Books and Tracts. These, together with 22 copies of the Family Bible, and 22 copies of the Arabic Bible, added to those distributed during the year preceding the report, form a total of 9679 Books and Tracts dispersed in three years since the institution of the Committee. These books have been distributed to the Military, to the Seamen of his Majesty's ships of war, of the Honourable Company's cruizers, and of the numerous merchant vessels which frequent the Port of *Bombay*; by all of whom they have been thankfully received. Neither have the Hospitals been forgotten; but in addition to the Holy Scriptures and Liturgy, such Tracts as are best calculated to afford consolation, and to promote the spiritual improvement of the patients, have been freely bestowed upon them.

In consequence of the liberal supply thus afforded by the Committee, the Governor in Council has appointed that an annual sum should be paid to them for the regular supply of books for the use of the Military and Marine under this *Presidency*.

The General Board learn, with much satisfaction, that this Committee have disposed of many sets of the SOCIETY's Family Bible, and that several sets have subsequently been applied for.

Diocese of CALCUTTA

Bombay.

The Reverend the Archdeacon of *Bombay*, the *President* of this Committee, having disposed of the copies of the Arabic Bible placed at his disposal by the General Board, partly among some Jews of the *Persian* Gulph, and partly to some respectable natives of *India*, who expressed a desire to peruse it, the General Board have directed fifty other copies to be transmitted to him, and express their acknowledgments for the great judgment he has exercised in the distribution of the former supply.

The Schools under the patronage of the *Bombay* Education Society, have been supplied gratuitously with the SOCIETY's books; the same benefit has also been extended to the Military Schools, and the total number of persons in these several Schools receiving their instruction through the books of the Committee, is about 850, of whom about 250 are natives.

From this report it appears that the funds of this Committee are in a favourable state, and have been augmented by a collection made after a Sermon preached by the *Archdeacon* for the benefit of the Society. The General Board have to acknowledge a donation of £25 made to the Anti-Infidel Fund by this Committee; and as they are satisfied that the Members will read the whole of this very interesting report with much satisfaction, they have therefore added it in the Appendix * as a satisfactory proof that the exertions of the District

* See Appendix No IV.

Committees in this distant Diocese of the Empire fully keep pace with any which are made at home for the success of the important objects of the SOCIETY. *Diocese of* CALCUTTA *Bombay.*

The attention of the District Committee has of late been directed, in an especial manner, to the important design of translating some of the more useful of the SOCIETY'S Books and Tracts into the languages spoken on the western coast of *India*. It appears, from recent advices, that considerable progress has already been made in translating and printing Tracts, both for the use of Schools and for general distribution among the Natives. In a Letter, dated 9th of *March*, 1821, the Archdeacon of *Bombay* writes as follows:—" In my last I did " myself the pleasure of enclosing to you a copy " of *Ostervald's Abridgment of the Bible*, in " *Mahratta*, being the first Tract the District " Committee had printed. I have now the satis- " faction of informing you, that we have since " translated and printed in *Guzerattee*, the under- " mentioned Tracts of the SOCIETY, 1000 copies " of each:

1. *Ostervald's Abridgment.*
2. *The History of our Blessed Saviour.*
3. *The Miracles of our Saviour.*
4. *The Parables of our Saviour.*
5. *The Discourses of our Saviour.*
6. *The Sermon on the Mount.*
7. *The Scripture History of Joseph.*

" The same Tracts are also translated into " *Mahratta*, and are now in the press. They

Diocese of CALCUTTA — *Bombay.* "will all be ready for distribution in the course "of the present month. We have also ordered "to be translated and printed in the *Mahratta* "and *Guzerattee* languages, the Tract entitled, "*The Chief Truths of the Christian Religion.*"

A very interesting report of the proceedings of the *Bombay* Education Society, to which is prefixed a Sermon preached before the SOCIETY by the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, has been forwarded by the Rev. Archdeacon *Barnes* to the Office in *London*, and is now lying on the table of the Board. From this report it appears, that the important object of educating the children of the poor, to which the *Archdeacon* originally drew the attention of the *Bombay* Government, is unremittingly pursued.

Ceylon. The District Committee at *Colombo*, from advices received, continue actively to promote the designs of the SOCIETY. The Prayer Books and elementary works received from the SOCIETY were almost immediately disposed of, and the most useful Tracts have been translated into the native languages. At the suggestion of this Committee, the General Board have directed 100 *Common Prayer Books*, and 100 copies of the *Great Importance of a Religious Life*, to be forwarded to them.

The Rev. *C. J. Lyon*, Chaplain to his Majesty's Forces at *Colombo*, and Secretary to the District Committee, in a Letter dated 31st of *May*, 1821, writes as follows:—"The Lord Bishop of *Cal-* "*cutta* has just left us, after spending more than a

"month at *Colombo*. We have had a special "Meeting of our District Committee, at his Lord-"ship's request, which, I am happy to say, has "given a new impulse to our proceedings; and "there is reason to believe that our efficiency will "in consequence be greater in time to come than "it has been. The Bishop, besides a handsome "donation from himself, was pleased to give to "the Committee the £300 sterling, which is "granted to him by his Majesty, on any visit to "the Island, for the support of religious Institu-"tions. This was accompanied with a particular "desire on the part of the Bishop, that the money "might be applied to the exclusive purpose of "translating and printing the Society's Tracts into "the native languages of *Ceylon*."

Diocese of CALCUTTA

Ceylon.

From the *Prince of Wales's Island* and *Bencoolen* District Committee no further accounts have been received.

Prince of Wales's Island.

In the Diocese of *Nova Scotia*, the *Halifax* Diocesan Committee have forwarded their sixth annual report, from which it appears that their activity and zeal in promoting the designs of the Society continue unabated. This Committee state, that they "cannot but acknowledge, with the liveliest gratitude, the success which has attended "their exertions. All the benefits which were "first hoped for, have been gradually extended "on every side; and they humbly hope that their "work is advancing, if not with a rapid, at least

Diocese of NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax.

Diocese of NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax.

" with a steady progress. Opportunities for re-" ligious information have been afforded to several " of the remotest parts of the Diocese, and facili-" ties for the education of the poor have been " created to an extent fully equal to the expecta-" tions of the most sanguine." They repeat their acknowledgments for the kind assistance they have continued to receive from the SOCIETY, particularly for a second grant to the amount of £100, which has given very great relief.

This Committee state that their distribution of Books and Tracts in the last year has been as great as could reasonably be expected; especially when it is considered that several of the District Committees in the Diocese receive their supplies direct from England. Since the last account this Committee have issued, besides 17 sets of the Family Bible, 153 Bibles, 259 Testaments, 359 Prayer Books, and 7546 Books and Tracts. The General Board also learn from this Committee, with much satisfaction, that the District Committees in this Diocese continue to increase the number of their members, and to promote all the designs of the SOCIETY. The number of children educated in Schools supplied by the *Halifax* Diocesan Committee with books, amounts to 881; and as in the preceding year, that division of the report which relates to education, is given in the Appendix *.

Fredericton.

The District Committee at *Fredericton* appear, from advices received, to be zealously engaged in promoting the SOCIETY's designs. They acknow-

* See Appendix. No. V.

ledge, thankfully, the supply of books sent out for the local depository, and hope, at no distant period, to renew their application for a further supply. *Diocese of* NOVA SCOTIA.

St. John's, N. Bruns. The District Committee at *St. John's*, in *New Brunswick*, acknowledge the receipt of the books sent by the SOCIETY, and return their thanks for the prompt attention paid to their requests. From the annual report of the Madras School in *New Brunswick*, which they have transmitted, it appears that in the several Schools established in the province, the number of children who receive instruction, amounts to 992.

St. Andrews. The District Committee established at *St. Andrews*, have made no report for the present year.

Prince Edward Island. In *Prince Edward Island*, the District Committee established at *Charlotte Town* for that Island, have made their report, from which it appears that, during the last year, they have received additional support by the accession of several new Members. This Committee have opened a direct communication with the SOCIETY for obtaining a supply of books immediately from the General Board. They report also the formation of a National School in the Colony, under the especial patronage and support of the *Lieutenant Governor*, the concerns of which are stated to be already in a prosperous condition.

Diocese of QUEBEC.

Quebec. In the Diocese of *Quebec*, the Diocesan Committee at *Quebec*, from advices received, have prepared their second annual report, which will

Diocese of QUEBEC.

Quebec.

shortly be transmitted to the General Board. They have great pleasure in being able to state, that the books which were sent for last autumn have arrived, and that they are disposing of them with such unexampled rapidity, that it will be necessary to make an additional selection. They state also that the Family Bible is beginning to be in great request in their Diocese. They have also reported a large addition of Members from the District Committee at *Montreal.*

Three Rivers.

From the District Committee established for the town and district of *Three Rivers,* no further accounts have been received.

Barbados.

In the *Island of Barbados* a District Committee has been formed, the primary resolutions of which have been received, which promise much advantage to the several designs of the SOCIETY. A Sub-Committee has been formed, and a depository of books is about to be established; and it is proposed that an annual Sermon shall be preached in aid of the objects of the Committee. A considerable number of Members have already been admitted.

Bermudas.

In the *Island of Bermudas* also a District Committee of the SOCIETY has been formed, the primary resolutions of which may shortly be expected. This Committee have already met with considerable support, and the General Board look forward with satisfaction to the prospect of much advantage from it to the SOCIETY's designs.

The General Board have now, in the last place, to communicate the proceedings of the SOCIETY in the remaining department of its designs; viz. the State of their MISSIONS.

MISSIONS.

Report of East India Mission.

THE Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, in a Letter dated 21st of *September* 1819, reports that he had heard from the Missionaries Messrs. *Haubroe* and *Rosen*, who were to remain, for some time, at *Madras* to learn the *Tamul* language, under the direction of *Mr. Clarke*. Much as the Bishop rejoices at the arrival of the new Missionaries, and at what he had heard of them, he is sure the SOCIETY will allow him to remind them of the view, which he took of that department of their labours, in a former letter; especially as *Mr. Kolhoff* writes that his health is declining, and that he wants an assistant at *Tanjore*. *Dr. Rottler* too was of an age, at which few arrive in India; so that, in the ordinary course of events, there may be reason to apprehend at no very distant period the occurrence of vacancies, which they will have no means of supplying; and even as it is, *Palamcotta* must be left without a Missionary. The SOCIETY will hear, the Bishop observes, from *Madras*, concerning the personal merits of *Mrs. Pohle*, as well as those of her late husband the Missionary, to which he had already given his testimony. *Mrs. Pohle* was desirous of having her son educated for the office of a Missionary. At present, no establishment existed in *India*, al-

together suited to this purpose; but if the measure which he had submitted to another Society, should be carried into effect, the sons of the Society's Missionaries might be among the first, to whom it would afford an asylum, with a view to their future destination.

The Bishop observes that the Society would hear, with regret, of the loss which itself, and the Church in *India*, have recently sustained, by the death of *Dr. Mousley*, Archdeacon of *Madras*; who was a man of no ordinary endowments, considered as a scholar, and a divine; very eminent as an orientalist, conscientiously and affectionately attached to the Church of *England*, of sound and solid judgment, of sedate yet earnest piety, and blessed with a serenity of mind, and a meekness of deportment, such as is rarely found. This good and amiable man expired on the 31st of *August* 1819, aged 47 years; and the honours paid to his memory, on the day of his funeral, evinced how highly his worth was appreciated, by people of all ranks, at *Madras*. The loss of him would be long felt by the Bishop, as he was his zealous, yet discreet, coadjutor, in an important part of his charge.

The Bishop, likewise, bewails the death of Col. *Bannerman*, Governor of *Prince of Wales's Island*, who had given his cordial support, towards forming a District Committee, for *Penang* and *Bencoolen*, of which also he had become President. His attention had been turned to that and other objects, in which the Bishop had taken an

interest; and in a country, where GOOD has not yet acquired the stability of system, but is wholly dependent on the activity and influence of individuals, such losses are very discouraging; and such is the condition of society in *India*, from its being, independently of deaths, in a state of continual fluctuation and change.

Report of East India Mission.

Another letter from the Bishop, dated 1st of *November* 1819, adverts to the circumstances of the *Singalese* Common Prayer Book, then printing under the care of Archdeacon *Twisleton*, as requiring a larger advance, than at first expected. He had too made the SOCIETY instrumental to a Version of the Common Prayer Book in the *Tamul*, translated by *Dr. Rottler*, of whom he had taken copies to the amount of £48, and half this quantity on his own account, all which he had ordered to be distributed to the native Christians in the *South*. Two good Versions of the Common Prayer, he considered to be a considerable contribution, towards the Christian literature of the country; and he should rejoice to see others, where they could conveniently be made. The amount of the several sums of £116 19*s*. 4*d*. paid to the *Madras* Committee, towards setting their press to work—the £48 before mentioned—and the donation from *Norwich* of £40, to be disposed of at the Bishop's discretion, for the interest of Christianity in *India*, making together £204 19*s*. 4*d*. he desired might be paid to his agent in *London, Mr Seth Ward*.

The Bishop sends copies of a correspondence

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with the *Madras* Committee, and a letter from the Rev. *Mr. Hough*, the Chaplain at *Palamcotta*, who is anxious for the sending out of a Missionary to that place. The Bishop too is solicitous for the sending out of more Missionaries; and that their salaries should be enlarged, so as to enable them neither to seek, nor to accept, other emoluments. The Bishop enlarges upon what he had said to the *Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts*, on the beneficial results, that might be expected to flow from the establishment of a Mission College in the vicinity of *Calcutta*; and on the want of Missionaries, *even if it were only to conduct and extend their native schools.* He had obtained through the munificence of the supreme Government in India a commodious, ample, and retired site, within three miles of *Calcutta*, and he wished only for authority from home, to begin the buildings. Of one thing he felt certain, though he should offer the opinion with great diffidence, considering the SOCIETY to be fully competent to form its own judgment in the case, that a great collegiate institution, near the capital, supported by two great SOCIETIES, which yet in origin, and in sentiment, are but one, and directed to the sole object of propagating pure Christianity, and all subsidiary knowledge, and carried on by able, laborious, and pious men, yet acting within itself, and in all its ramifications, upon the same system; such an Institution, he is firmly persuaded, would never want funds, when it should be once fairly established, and brought into action; and then,

though probably not before, it would derive assistance from *India*.

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To meet the recommendation of the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, and the *Madras* District Committee, in respect to paying the salaries of the Missionaries half yearly in advance, the Society agreed that a remittance having already been made, for the salaries due at the end of the year 1820, there be further remitted a sum equal to half a year's salaries. This may be expected to arrive at *Madras*, about the beginning of the present year and will be in advance, for the first half of the year. After which, the like remittance of half a year's salaries, to be made at *Christmas*, and then at *Midsummer*, and *Christmas* every year, by which means, the Missionaries will receive their salaries half a year before they are due. These remittances being made to the District Committee at *Madras*, they have been instructed to pay the salaries of the Missionaries, by quarterly payments, if the Missionaries shall so wish to receive them.

Suggestions having been made to the *Madras* Committee, by the Rev. *Mr. Hough*, respecting certain expences for the enlargement of the Mission Churches, and for other purposes, out of the Mission Funds in *India*, the Society also agreed, that if any addition beyond what those funds could furnish, be needed, that the Bishop be authorized to make such advances, out of the vote of credit granted to him, as he should deem expedient for the purpose.

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Another letter dated the 4th of *December* 1819, acknowledges the receipt of the Secretary's particularly welcome letter, informing his Lordship of the SOCIETY'S grant of £5000, towards building and establishing the proposed *Calcutta* Mission College, which he considered to be a munificent proof of the SOCIETY'S approbation of the design. The SOCIETY may be assured, the Bishop observes, that the confidence they have reposed in him, will not be misplaced, so far as his humble endeavours, under Providence, shall enable him to employ it, to the great and good ends, which the SOCIETY has in view. He feels indeed the full weight of the responsibility, which he thus incurs; and he is not insensible to the difficulties of arranging the details of the plan, and carrying it into complete effect, where there is nothing like precedent, which is strictly applicable, nor much of recorded experience to assist the judgment. In the interval, however, which has elapsed, since he first proposed the College, all the reflection, which he has been able to give to the subject, tends to confirm him in the belief, that the outline, which he had offered, was generally correct, and in the hope that the Divine blessing will further the design, and bring it to an happy issue. In saying this, however, he does not mean that the work of conversion may be expected to proceed with great rapidity. This would be too sanguine a view of the case, when we know what impediments stand in the way; but, means must still be employed to attain an end, which is

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also known to be among the gracious purposes of the Almighty. In the College, all human means, so far as they have hitherto suggested themselves, will be combined, whilst it will furnish the means of acting upon system, and of being ready to take advantage of any honourable circumstances, which may arise. Great good, indeed, in the ordinary course of Providence, may be expected from an Institution, which, in such a country as *India*, is directed to the diffusion of Christianity, in its purest form, and to the advancement of all subsidiary knowledge, though it be impossible to ascertain the precise measure of the benefit, or the moment when it shall first be felt. The College too, he thinks, will harmonize admirably with the District Committees of the SOCIETY, which are now so distributed, that every part of *India* may be brought within the sphere of their influence. The Committees want books, in their native languages; and the College press will supply them, and thus give an extensive circulation, for the fruits of its labours, in the literary department. The College and the Committees will be subsidiary to each other, which, either by itself must be incomplete.

Another letter from the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, dated 2d. *Feb.* 1820, expresses his approbation of the transfer of the *Tranquebar* country congregations to the patronage of this SOCIETY, at the rate of £10 per month; and he is much gratified at the advance of salary to the Missionaries.

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Governor *Sir Robert Brownrigg*, of *Ceylon*, then on his voyage to *England*, had presented to the *Colombo* District Committee, the complete impression (500 copies) of a *Tamul* Version of the Liturgy, made by *Christian David* the pupil of *Swartz*, which could not have cost his Excellency less than £300, which the SOCIETY will doubtless notice as it deserves. When the *Singalese* Version shall be completed, the Book of Common Prayer will be intelligible to all the inhabitants of *Ceylon*. It is not, however, to be supposed, that the *Tamul* Prayer Book at *Madras*, as translated by *Dr. Rottler*, will be rendered useless, by what has been done at *Ceylon*.

On the whole, the Bishop trusts, that the SOCIETY'S affairs are as prosperous in that part of the world, as could be expected, under all circumstances; and he again expresses his wish that a Missionary should be settled at *Palamcotta*.

Another letter from his Lordship, dated the 14th of *February* 1820, states that *Dr. Rottler's* Version of the Common Prayer is found to be a losing concern to him. The *Tamul* Liturgy, translated by him, the Bishop finds not to differ so much from that done at *Ceylon*, as had been apprehended. It appears, nevertheless, from the report of the *Rev. Mr. Bissett*, that there are such variations in the Versions, as to render the *Madras* Version too high and refined, and to have many words of rare occurrence, in the less polished dialect of *Ceylon*. The Bishop considers *Dr. Rottler* to be a valuable Missionary. Peace,

which had been interrupted in his congregation, was happily restored, and the Mission seemed to be most flourishing. *Report of East India Mission.*

The £5000 furnished by this Society, towards the building and establishment of the *Calcutta* Mission College, were lodged at a highly favourable course of exchange, at the Treasury of the *Hon. East India Company*, in exchange for bills drawn upon the Governor and Council at *Fort William*, in *Bengal*, and made payable, at six months after sight, to the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, or his order.—Sicca Rupees 45,283. 3, at 2*s.* 2½*d.* per sicca Rupee.

The Bishop having recommended to the attention of the Society *Mr. Christian David*, who had translated the *Ceylon Tamul* Version of the English Liturgy, originally a disciple of the late Mr. *Swartz*, and greatly beloved by the native Christians; *Mr. Christian David* having also been mentioned in strong terms of recommendation, by the *Rev. Mr. Bissett*, of *Ceylon*, the Society sent out to him a gratuity of £50; and suggested to the Bishop to enquire whether *Mr. Christian David* could consistently be employed in the concerns of the Society, and whether he should be inclined to recommend any arrangement of this sort.

The Society, too, on the ground of the long and faithful services of the late *Rev. Mr. Pohle, during a period of* 40 *years*, as one of the Society's Missionaries, and finding that his

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worthy widow had likewise been, both before and since his death, of essential service to the *Trichinapoly* Mission, twice sent out to her a gratuity of £50, since the death of her husband, and have subsequently settled an annuity of £20 upon *Mrs. Pohle.*

And, the remaining copies of the *Tamul* Version of the Liturgy, by *Dr. Rottler*, have been directed to be taken at three pagodas each, and consigned to the care of the *Madras* Committee.

Vipery.

The *Rev. Dr. Rottler*, in a letter dated at *Vipery*, the 12th of *June* 1819, mentions, in terms of great satisfaction, his having been furnished with printing paper, and binding materials, by the *Madras* District Committee, enabling him to complete the publication of his *Tamul* Version of the *English* Liturgy, and to repay the cost by books. This work, handsomely printed in quarto, and neatly bound, he had transmitted to be placed in the SOCIETY's Library, was a work, which had been many years in hand, and he had laboured to make it as correct and faithful as possible. It had likewise been benefited, by frequent corrections of the Government's *Tamul* translator, *Richard Clarke, Esq.* the respected Secretary of the District Committee, to whose learning and liberality his thanks were eminently due; and he entreats the prayers of the SOCIETY, for the Divine blessing upon the use of it in all the *Tamul* congregations, in which it may be admitted.

The *Rev. Mr. Rosen*, in a Letter dated at

Vipery, 30th of *July* 1819, announces, with devout expressions of thanks to the Almighty, his and Mr. *Haubroe's* happy arrival in *India*, on the 18th of the previous month. Their passage had been a good one; their Captain excellent in his station; and they were in good health. *Mr. Clarke* had received them with great kindness, as had *Dr. Rottler*, with true oriental hospitality; and they were placed in a house at *Vipery*, belonging to the Mission. They had already begun the study of the *Tamul* Grammar, towards which *Mr. Clarke*, as well as *Dr. Rottler*, had furnished assistance. They had seen *Archdeacon Mousley*, and other Clergymen, who had all comforted them, in the most friendly and Christian way. On the first Sunday after their arrival, they had attended divine worship in the Church at *Vipery*, where *Dr. Rottler* preached in the *Tamul* language. It was a truly affecting sight, for a Christian Missionary to behold a congregation of Heathens, turned from their vain gods, and assembled to worship the only true God. *Dr. Rottler* appeared to them to speak the *Tamul* language with as much fluency, as if it had been his native language. They had written to the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, regretting that they had not met him at *Madras*. They pray God that their health and strength may be preserved, and that they may soon be able to co-operate with their Brethren, in their labours to promote the glory of the true God. And, they return thanks for all the kindnesses, that had been bestowed

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upon them, earnestly praying God to bless the endeavours of the SOCIETY.

Another letter from *Mr. Rosen,* dated at *Trichinapoly,* 21st of *January* 1820, contains particulars, at considerable length, respecting his continuance, for several months, in *Malabar* studies at *Vipery,* and the great kindness shewn him there, by *Mr. Clarke,* the *Rev. Mr. Thompson,* and others. His destination had been to settle, in the Mission concerns, at *Trichinapoly* :—In his journey thither, he went by the way of *Tanjore,* where he had been most cordially and hospitably received by the *Rev. Mr. Kolhoff,* and introduced to the *Rajah,* who continued to retain his veneration for the memory of the late good *Mr. Swartz.* Having also been introduced, by *Mr. Kolhoff,* to his native Christian congregations, and received his valuable advice and instruction, he proceeded to his station at *Trichinapoly,* accompanied by *Mr. Kolhoff,* who went to induct him. The Mission he found to be in some decay; and its income, for which it had chiefly been indebted to the late *Mr. Swartz,* insufficient to pay the Mission servants; the deficiencies, however, having been customarily made up from the Vestry fund. The Mission buildings were in bad repair. There were two Schools, one of them *English,* having between 50 and 60 scholars, and the other *Malabar,* containing eight natives, among whom were *three Bramins,* and others of high casts. He had preached in the *English* congregation, catechized the children, and was using his endeavours

to improve the Schools. What had hitherto been the income of a Missionary, he found to be very insufficient. It was not so formerly, when the *Hon. Company* furnished them with a Chaplain's salary, for ministering to the Soldiers, whereas that source of his income had ceased, in consequence of the increase of *English* Chaplains.

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The late *Mr. Pohle* had left a son, named *Uriel,* whom his father had wished to become a Missionary. The boy was very good natured, and of a good understanding; and he had accordingly taken him under his tuition, to instruct him in classical, and other learning; wishing only that he might be furnished with suitable books, for this purpose.

In the course of the year 1819, there had been, at *Trichinapoly*, Baptisms,—*English* 8; *Portuguese* 1, and *Tamul* 11. Marriages,—*English* 8, and *Tamul* 1. Burials,—*English* 1; *Portuguese* 4, and *Tamul* 19. Communicants,—*English* 37; *Portuguese* 24, and *Tamul* 108. In the *English* School, there were from 50 to 60 Children; and in the native School, from 20 to 28. The *Portuguese* congregation consisted of 140 persons, and the *Tamul* 305. There were two *English* Schoolmasters, and one *Malabar*.

A Letter from the *Rev. Mr. Haubroe,* partly written during his voyage, and dated off the *Isle of Trinidad,* the 30th of *April,* 1819, and partly written at *Vipery,* and dated the 29th of *July,* 1819; the former part detailing particulars of their good voyage, and the latter announcing their

Report of East India Mission. arrival at *Madras*, after a voyage of four months and eighteen days, without touching at the *Cape*. During the whole voyage, he had enjoyed good health, and had been able to pursue his studies. He mentions, as *Mr. Rosen* had done, their kind reception by *Mr. Clarke*, and by others; and that he had began his *Tamulian* studies, and hoped soon to get fitted for active service, in the labours of the Mission. On their voyage, every Sunday morning, when the weather would allow, Divine Service had been performed, for the ship's company, by reading the Prayers and Lessons of the day, each of them engaging in these holy functions by turn. The best spirit of mutual esteem, kindness, and friendship, had animated their whole company; and it was fitting to acknowledge that gentleness of behaviour, that liberality, and careful attention to their comforts, which will make the memory of *Captain Beecham* always dear to them.

Another Letter from *Mr. Haubroe*, dated at *Vipery*, the 14th of *October*, 1819, states, that by consent of the Reverend Seniors and Brethren of the Hon. Society's Missions in *India*, he had been appointed to remain at *Vipery*, for the assistance of the *Rev. Dr. Rottler*; *Mr. Rosen* having been appointed for *Trichinapoly*, and *Mr. Sperschneider* to remain at *Tanjore*, with *Mr. Kolhoff*. Official Letters had been forwarded, by the *Madras* Committee, to the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, in order to obtain his Lordship's approbation of these appointments. He

had made some progress in the *Tamul*, by the assistance of *Dr. Rottler*; and he hoped soon to be able to take upon him the catechising of the children. They might then, perhaps, be able to station one of their Catechists at *Vellore*, to take charge of the Christian congregation, at that place; which he considers to stand in great need of a Missionary. The poor *Hindoo* Christians, suffering under the troubles of poverty and other hardships, despised by their Heathen countrymen, for professing Christianity, forsaken by their relations, but not forsaking their Saviour; and left, without a Shepherd, to guide them in the way of the knowledge of the true God, and his Gospel, exhibit a case that appeals to the Christian compassion, and liberality of the *British Society for promoting Christian Knowledge*. Their sighs will speak to the heart what words cannot do. He had had the satisfaction of seeing a new School opened by *Dr. Rottler*, for the education in *Tamul*, of *English* and *Portuguese* children. The children being assembled at eight o'clock in the morning, a Psalm was sung, and Prayers were offered to Almighty God, the Father of all goodness, that he would graciously protect and bless the School; and through his Spirit, make it a house of prayer, and a Seminary of sound doctrine, piety, and Christian morals, to the glory of his Holy Name. In the *Tamul* School, there were 65 children, and in the other 47, and the number of scholars was likely to encrease: in the *Tamul* School the children were

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taught *English*. Confiding in God, he looked forward with joy to the glorious career, that was opened, in the Missionary field; and his greatest anxiety was, that he might not be found a useless servant of his Master.

These communications, from the Missionaries, could not fail to be gratifying to the SOCIETY; and to encrease their satisfaction, at having been enabled, through God's good Providence, to augment the salaries of such Men, and thereby give additional encouragement, and enable them to proceed, with fewer worldly impediments, in their " work and labour of love."

Report of Scilly Mission, for 1820.

The SOCIETY having long entertained an anxious wish to procure another Missionary for the *Scilly Islands*, to supply particularly the islands of *St. Agnes*' and *St. Martin's*, heretofore served by the *Rev. Mr. Selby*, the Committee were glad to learn, on good testimony, that *Mr. George Woodley*, a Schoolmaster at *Truro*, in *Cornwall*, was desirous of engaging in this Mission, for the SOCIETY, provided the Lord Bishop of *Exeter* would admit him to Holy Orders, for this purpose. The evidence of *Mr. Woodley's* abilities and theological attainments, and principles, having been exhibited to the public, in several publications, that had obtained prizes, from " the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and Church Union, in the

Diocese of *St. David's,"* one of which is entitled "the Divinity of Christ proved," and another "the true Church of Christ ascertained;" and the testimonies produced of *Mr. Woodley's* moral character, pious disposition, and well regulated zeal, appearing to be very satisfactory, the SOCIETY agreed in opinion that *Mr. Woodley* would be a proper person to fill the vacant Mission, provided the Lord Bishop of *Exeter* should see fit to ordain him; to whom therefore application was made, by the SOCIETY, for this purpose.

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The Bishop, having obtained full satisfaction, respecting *Mr. Woodley,* he was accordingly ordained Deacon, and appointed to the Mission, the SOCIETY having agreed to allow him £100 *per annum,* house rent, boat-hire, and other minor advantages; and, as soon as possible, afterwards, he went to *Scilly,* and obtained a convenient habitation for himself and his family, at *St. Mary's Island,* none having been procurable, either at *St. Agnes',* or *St. Martin's.* Soon after the *Rev. Mr. Woodley's* settlement in *Scilly,* his letters to the SOCIETY described the place, as most expensive, and inconvenient, in many respects, clothes and hats being soon spoiled by the spray of the sea, and food being scarce, poor, and dear. He states, however, that he had reason to believe that his labours, among the poor people, would be attended with a blessing, that he was on the best terms with all the respectable inhabitants, and that his poor parishioners were very affectionate,

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These statements having been taken into consideration, and other evidence corroborative of the expediency of advancing the salaries of the two *Scilly* Missionaries having appeared, the Committee were unanimously of opinion that it would be proper to advance the salaries of each of them to £150, the advance commencing from Christmas 1820, and to grant to the *Rev. Mr. Lane* a gratuity of £30 for the year 1820, and to the *Rev. Mr. Woodley* a gratuity of £20 for the portion of the same year, in which he had been at *Scilly;* engaging at the same time to put *Mr. Lane's* Mission-house at *Tresco,* in good repair, and to do what was necessary to make the house, which *Mr. Woodley* had taken, at *St. Mary's,* convenient and comfortable to him. The entire satisfaction, which had been given by *Mr. Lane,* in the discharge of his important duties, among the poor islanders of *Scilly,* ever since he had been placed there; the good prospect that there was of *Mr. Woodley's* continuing to be, as he hitherto had been, equally useful in his station; the cordiality that appeared to subsist between the two Missionaries; and the evident expediency of the thing, induced the Board most cordially to accede to the recommendation of their *Scilly* Mission Committee, to advance the salaries of their Missionaries, from £100 to £150 each, and to concur in the other advantages, suggested for them.

In a Letter from *Mr. Lane,* dated at *Tresco,*

December 26, 1820, he expresses satisfaction, at being able to report, that his Mission to *Scilly* had been attended with the appearance of much spiritual good to the Islanders, many of whom, who had been living as without God in the world, and going on in the broad way to destruction, were now earnestly striving to enter in at the strait gate, and to save their souls alive—many, who had lived in the neglect of the Sabbath, were now first at Church, whenever its doors were opened—and many, who had seceded from her sanctuary, had returned to worship God, in "the place where his honor dwelleth," so that the Church had become too small for those who flocked, to hear the words of eternal life. He reports likewise that there were never less than from 100 to 150 Communicants, whenever the Holy Sacrament was administered. Such circumstances were contemplated by *Mr. Lane*, as a stimulus to exertion: and at the same time he returned his grateful acknowledgments to the SOCIETY, for the ample counsels, and for every other assistance and encouragement afforded him, by which he was enabled to go on in the discharge of his sacred duties; and likewise for the great attention paid to his temporal comforts.

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In consequence of the exertions that had been made, in various quarters, for the relief of great distresses that had been experienced by the *Scilly* Islanders, their fisheries have encreased, and their situation, on the whole, is greatly meliorated.

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Of the monies, which had been received, by the SOCIETY, for their temporal relief, an account of which was produced in the last Annual Report, a balance remained in hand, some of which has been appropriated, on the recommendation of one or other of the Missionaries, to furnish relief, in extraordinary cases, and a remnant is reserved, for similar occurrences.

APPENDIX, No. I.

Rules for the Formation and Management of Parochial Lending Libraries, under the Sanction of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. *Rules for Lending Libraries.*

I. Every Parochial Lending Library, established under the sanction of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, shall consist exclusively of the Books and Tracts on the Society's permanent, supplemental, and occasional Catalogues.

II. When it is determined to establish a Lending Library in any Parish, the Minister of that Parish, being a Member of the Society, shall be entitled, upon application to the Board, in London, or to the Diocesan or District Committee, within whose limits his Parish is situated, to obtain such Books and Tracts as he may think fit, on the terms of the Society, and to pay for the same from his own, or from any other funds.

III. When it appears that the establishment of a Parochial Lending Library would be desirable, and that the Parish is not able to defray the whole expence, even on the reduced terms of the Society, aid shall be granted at the discretion of the Board.

IV. All applications for such aid, shall set forth the population, and other peculiar circumstances of the Parish; and shall be forwarded through the Bishop of the Diocese, the Archdeacon, or the Diocesan or District Committee.

V. Every such Parochial Lending Library, shall be

Rules for Lending Libraries.

under the sole controul of the Minister of the Parish, subject only to the following rules and regulations: and to the forfeiture of the SOCIETY'S grant upon the introduction of any Book or Tract not on the SOCIETY'S Catalogues.

VI. The Books shall be kept in some particular room, or part of a room, by themselves; and a catalogue of each Library shall be kept with the Books.

VII. A register shall be kept, with a page appropriated to each volume in the Library, and ruled in such manner as to shew, in one line, to whom, and on what day, the volume was lent, and on what day returned; and such register shall be provided by the SOCIETY, and shall contain a printed copy of these Rules.

VIII. The Books and Tracts shall be arranged in volumes, at the discretion of each applicant, and be uniformly bound in calf.

IX. The following Rules, for the conservation of the Books, shall be printed, and bound up with every volume:

PAROCHIAL LENDING LIBRARY,

UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE

Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge,

In the Parish of

In the Diocese of

1. This Library is under the immediate direction of the Minister of the Parish: the times of attendance for issuing and receiving Books, will be fixed at his discretion; and he may make any regulations, for the management of the Library, which are not inconsistent with the Rules laid down by the SOCIETY.
2. Each volume shall be returned by the borrower within fourteen days, but may be re-issued to him at the discretion of the Minister.
3. No volume shall be transferred from family to family; nor shall any family, except under special circumstances, have more than one Book at a time.

Rules for Lending Libraries.

4. No Book shall be alienable, under any circumstances whatever; and every fresh application for Books shall be accompanied by a report of such as are become unserviceable.
5. No Books shall be admitted into this Parochial Lending Library, without containing these Rules in the inside, and bearing the SOCIETY'S stamp on the cover.

X. When a Parish, which has received a Lending Library, is within a District in which a Diocesan or District Committee is established, an annual return is to be made to such Committee, of the number and state of the Books; and to be transmitted to the Board in London, by the Committee, in their Annual Report.

XI. When such a Parish does not lie within a District in which a Diocesan or District Committee is established, the return is to be made directly to the Board.

APPENDIX, N°. II.

THE REV. ARCHDEACON CAMBRIDGE, AND JOSHUA WATSON, ESQ. TREASURERS TO THE GENERAL DESIGNS.

Audit, 1821. RECEIPTS.	£.	s.	d.
To balance in the hands of the Treasurers, *in bills not due* at the last audit	318	6	2
Received Benefactions and sundry Legacies to the General Designs of the Society	4436	3	7
Ditto..Subscriptions from the Members of the Society	10965	13	11
Ditto..Legacy of Rev. Thomas How	1000	0	0
Ditto .. ditto of Nathaniel Gould, Esq.	500	0	0
Ditto .. ditto of Mrs. O'Donnel	100	0	0
Ditto .. ditto of Mrs. Catherine Wilson	100	0	0
Ditto .. ditto of Thomas Wilson, Esq. *Camberwell*	100	0	0
Ditto .. ditto of Mrs. Houseman, *with interest*	105	19	9
Ditto..of the Members on account of packets of Books on the terms of the Society	24129	15	1
Ditto..Dividends of Funds at the Accountant-General's office..	3481	10	6
Ditto .... ditto for the General Designs	3306	11	10
Ditto .... ditto on account of the Manks impression	42	0	0
Ditto .... ditto for Belke's Charity	41	10	0
Ditto .... ditto for Belke's East-India Charity	2	8	0
Ditto .... ditto in trust for Mrs. Negus's Charity for the distribution of Bibles &c. in Rotherhithe	81	0	0
Ditto .... ditto in trust for Mrs. Negus's Welsh Charity....	30	0	0
Ditto .... ditto for charity of Clericus	50	0	0
Ditto .... ditto in trust for Mr. Ferrett's Charity	2	10	0
Ditto .... ditto on account of the East-India Mission	96	0	0
Ditto .... ditto on Rev. R. Canning's bequest one year	363	3	6
Ditto .... ditto for Mrs. Jenkins's Trust	5	5	0
Ditto .... ditto of £100 in trust for a Sacrament on holydays at Bow Church	3	0	0
Ditto..on account of the Family Bible	700	0	0
Ditto..for re-sale of Exchequer Bills	3105	9	2
Ditto..discount from Booksellers &c. for prompt payment ... 1783 4 8; Ditto..interest on Exchequer Bills ... 34 12 6	1817	17	2
Ditto..from War Office, for His Majesty's troops in *India*	90	0	0
Ditto..of Secretary at War for Books supplied to his Majesty's troops in Hospital	13	8	0
Ditto..of Hon. Warwick Lake, Agent to the Civil Establishment at *New South Wales*	105	16	11
Ditto..a Donation from *Mrs. Mostyn* for a new impression of the Welsh Bible	100	0	0
Ditto..Dividend for Rev. Samuel Disney's and Drake's Charity	2	10	0
Ditto..a Donation on account of *Calcutta Mission* College	50	0	0
	£55245	18	7

Audit, 1821. PAYMENTS.	£.	s.	d.
Paid Messrs. Rivingtons *in full* for Books sent to Members since last audit, on the terms of the Society, viz.— Member's part ... £23306 11 1; Society's part ... 13491 3 4	36797	14	5
Ditto .... ditto on account of Bibles and other Books *gratuitously* distributed since last audit, as under:			
New South Wales National Schools &c.	36	0	0
Paris	17	1	10
St. John's, New Brunswick, National School	35	4	10
National Society's Chapel	27	13	4
King's Bench Prison	14	16	0
Van Dieman's Land	26	15	5
Scilly Islands	44	11	10
Sundry smaller grants	194	4	6
Ditto for 86,315 copies of "Directions for devout Behaviour" &c. *gratuitously* inserted in the Prayer-books	374	8	2
Ditto for packing-boxes &c. for District Members' packets, and Committees distributing Annual Report	517	6	0
Ditto the Society's grant towards the expence of erecting a Mission College at Calcutta, remitted to the Ld. Bishop	5000	0	0
Ditto for paper and printing the Anniversary Sermon, with the Annual Report of the Society; and for reprinting sundry Tracts and Papers, *gratuitously* distributed	1256	7	6
Ditto on account of Belke's Charity for Books	50	11	9
Ditto .... ditto .. Mrs. Negus's Rotherhithe Charity	1	0	4
Ditto .... ditto .. Mrs. Negus's Welsh Charity	16	15	2
Ditto .... ditto .. Mrs. Jenkins's Charity	3	3	0
Ditto .... ditto .. Disney's Trust	9	0	0
Ditto .... ditto .. Clericus's Charity	49	9	3
Ditto .... ditto .. Ferrett's Trust	4	10	0
Ditto *Bombay* Committee to assist in the expence of translating Tracts for the use of the Natives	100	0	0
Ditto three years' dividend on £100 consols in trust for a Sacrament on Holydays at *Bow Church*	9	0	0
Ditto for Books shipped for the Civil Government at *New South Wales*	105	16	11
Advanced to the *East India* Mission from General Designs	1900	0	0
Ditto on account of the *Scilly Mission*, for salaries and gratuities to the Society's Missionaries, and School-Masters in the *Scilly Isles*	631	11	0
Ditto towards the expences of the Anniversary Meeting of the Charity Children, June, 1820	50	0	0
Ditto rent, house-expences, and repair of the Society's house	646	17	8
Ditto for postage, stationery-wares, stamps for receipts, insurance, and other incidental expences	440	9	8
Ditto for salaries to the secretaries, accountant, book-keeper, and clerks, to Lady-day, 1821; and for parliamentary and parish taxes	1058	8	10
Ditto for purchase of stock, investment of legacies, &c.	2532	3	11
Ditto on account of War Office, for His Majesty's troops in India..	45	0	0
Ditto .... ditto .. Secretary at War, for Books sent to His Majesty's troops in Hospital at *Corfu* &c.	13	8	0
Ditto .... ditto .. Secretary of State for the *Colonial* Department	225	9	9
Ditto .... ditto .. *Bombay* Government	100	0	0
Ditto .... ditto .. Rev. R. Canning's legacy, dividends as to East-India Mission	363	3	6
Ditto .... ditto .. East-India Mission dividends	96	0	0
Ditto legacy duty on the bequests of Rev. Thomas How, Nath. Gould, Esq. and Mrs. O'Donnel	160	0	0
By balance in the hands of the Treasurers to the General Designs, IN BILLS NOT DUE AT THE AUDIT	2291	16	0
	£55245	18	7

HENRY HUGH HOARE, ESQ. TREASURER THE EAST-INDIA MISSION.

RECEIPTS.	£.	s.	d.
To received Benefactions and Subscriptions	40	0	6
To Dividends on Funds, half year, due Michaelmas, 1818.	14	4	2
Ditto ditto half year, due Lady Day, 1819.	14	4	2
Ditto ditto half year, due Michaelmas, 1819.	14	4	2
Ditto ditto one year, due Christmas, 1820.	96	0	0
Ditto ditto on Rev. R. Canning's Legacy, one year, due Christmas, 1820	363	3	6
To received for Exchequer Bill paid off ....£207 4 0 — Ditto less Exchequer Bill taken in exchange 200 0 0	7	4	0
Ditto German Collection per Rev. Dr. Kuper	22	5	0
Ditto from the Treasurers of General Designs	1900	0	0
To balance due to the Treasurer Henry Hugh Hoare, Esq.	24	4	5
	£2495	9	11

PAYMENTS.	£.	s.	d.
By balance due to the Treasurer last Audit	52	6	6
By payment for salaries and gratuities to the Missionaries, Catechists, &c.	1837	18	7
By Bishop of Calcutta, repaid him for advance to the Tranquebar Mission	39	15	4
By payment for Books and Stores shipped to the Missionaries	544	9	0
By ditto on account of incidental expences	21	0	6
	£2495	9	11

APPENDIX, N°. III.

A List of the casual Donations and Legacies to the General Designs of the Society—to the East India Mission, &c. received between Christmas 1819, and Christmas 1820.

Donations to the General Designs.

	£.	s.	d.
Mrs. Waldo, of *Worting*	50	0	0
B. B. Mathew, Esq. *Shrub's Hill*	50	0	0
Charles Browne, Esq. *Brighton*	34	5	0
Hon. Philip Pusey	30	0	0
The Earl of Stamford and Warrington	20	0	0
Captain Bailey, *Cambridge-row*	20	0	0
James Gurry, Esq.	20	0	0
W. Hornby, Esq. *Kirkham*	20	0	0
Dowager Lady Melville	20	0	0
Joseph Dart, Esq. *East India-House*	20	0	0
H. Porcher, Esq. *Arlington-street*	20	0	0
Right Hon. J. H. Frere, *Roydon*	20	0	0
Bramfield United Society, by the Rev. George Naylor	17	15	6
John H. Tritton, Esq.	10	10	0
Anonymous	10	0	0
Joshua Knowles, Esq. *Wanstead*	10	0	0
A Lady, by Miss C. Aubertin	10	0	0
Miss Wegg, *Upper Brook-street*	10	0	0
Mrs. Tongue	10	0	0
Rev. G. W. Lloyd	9	3	0
Rev. Dr. Mouseley, Archdeacon of Madras, *deceased*	8	8	0
Rev. H. Clarke, *Navenby*	7	1	0